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CATTLE SHOW AND FAIR.

Of the New-York State Agricultural Society,
Held at Syracuse, Sept. 29, 30, 1841.

THE 29th and 30th days of September, were proud days for the State of New-York, commencing, as they did, a new era in our agricultural career; giving a well founded hope of many succeeding and still more triumphant gatherings of the bone and muscle of our country; and demonstrating to all the wisdom of that legislation which has so successfully called this and so many other societies, having the same great object (the promotion of agriculture) in view, into a prosperous existence. Nothing could more satisfactorily show the interest which such anniversary exhibitions create, than the multitude of gratified spectators, variously estimated at from ten to fifteen thousand, principally farmers, from almost every county in the State, as well as the assemblage of distinguished agriculturists and other gentlemen from other States of the Union. Considered as a first Show and Fair of the Society, an experiment as it were, the meeting was an eminently successful one, although in some respects it cannot be doubted that succeeding ones will be superior.

In making the preparations for the Fair, too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the committee of arrangements at Syracuse, particularly Messrs. BURNET and BALDWIN, whose exertions and efforts to do justice to all during the two days, as well as in the preliminary proceedings, were well directed and untiring. The same spirit was evidenced by the public spirited citizens of Syracuse generally; and pleasant associations in the minds of those who for the first time have visited that flourishing city of central New-York, will doubtless long remain. The pens for the exhibition of animals were erected in a beautiful grove near the court house; and the court house itself was thrown open for the reception and exhibition of agricultural implements and products, and specimens of domestic manufactures. The number and variety of these things, however, was such that the halls allotted to their use were found insufficient, and utterly unable to accommodate the crowd of visitors who wished to inspect and examine them.

On the day previous to the opening of the Fair, a train of 25 cars, filled with choice animals from the vicinity of Albany, and from the river counties, left Albany for Syracuse. The counties around poured in their animals, implements and products, and on the opening of the Fair on the 29th, Syracuse presented a scene of gratified interest, and a thronging population, never witnessed, unless during the immense mass meetings of the political parties at that point in the autumn of 1840. The concourse of farmers and mechanics, the producers of wealth, and the proud examples of the real dignity of labor, was unexpectedly great; and with these came the amateur farmer, the professional man, and all who felt an interest in the advance and prosperity of agriculture. The weather, during the two days of the Fair, was such as to prevent in a great measure the attendance of the ladies, although enough were present to show that in every thing that regards

the public welfare, man may be sure of the cordial support and approbation of woman. The numerous and beautiful articles presented for exhibition, the evidences of female skill and industry, were much admired and elicited deserved commendation.

The first day was principally devoted to the examination of animals, implements, and articles presented. That as a first effort, some little irregularity and confusion should have taken place, that the committees should not have been as perfectly organized as they might have been, and that some mistakes in not properly noticing some animals or implements at the proper time, should have occurred, is not surprising, or to be wondered at; but the fine manner in which the whole came off, and the strong and general expressions of pleasure and satisfaction from all, showed that such mistakes were not permitted to mar the feelings, or disturb the harmony of the occasion. The number of animals on the ground for exhibition was great; and taken in connexion with those of the Onondaga County Society, which held its meeting at the same time and place, the collection has been rarely equaled at any Fair hitherto held in this country. We may remark here that great discrepancies appear in the reports of the proceedings furnished for many of the most prominent journals of our country, as to the numbers of animals present. These differences are accounted for by the fact that some give only those claiming the premiums offered by the State Society; others include in their estimate those presented to the county society for premiums; and some embrace all that were shown at the Fair, whether claiming premiums or not. We may here remark too, that the patrons of the Onondaga County Society did not in general come forward as fully and strongly as they might and would have done with their fine animals and agricultural products, had they not relied on the State Society for the principal interest of the two days.

Our host of the Syracuse House, found his powers of providing food for the multitude, pretty well tested, and amply and honorably did they sustain themselves. Not far from twelve hundred partook of his splendid farmers' dinner on the first day. J. B. NOTT, Esq. President of the society, presided, and after the many good things on the table had been liberally proved, in a few well timed remarks he introduced to the company that eminent western agriculturist SOLON ROBINSON, Esq. who was present, and who is so favorably known as the pioneer in that great undertaking, the formation of a National Agricultural Society. Mr. Robinson at once responded to the call, and in a speech of some fifteen minutes fixed the attention of the hearers, by his well timed allusions, and happy illustrations. The Hon. MICAH STERLING of Jefferson county, long a Senator from that district, and now well known as an agriculturist, being called upon, next addressed the company as follows:

Mr. President, and gentlemen of the Society:—An agricultural society has been organized in the county of Jefferson, and its prospect of success and usefulness is very fair. About 300 farmers have already joined it—they have raised between four and five hundred dollars—they have held their first cattle show, which went off remarkably well—they distributed premiums to the amount of \$384.

When the law was first passed appropriating a sum of money for the encouragement of agriculture, I had great doubts as to its expediency, and feared that evil rather than good would be its result. Indeed I looked upon it as little else than a wanton waste of the public money, and had repeatedly, while a member of the Senate, voted against the passage of such a law, not from any intrinsic defect in the law or its policy, but because I had been convinced from experience, it would do no good to vote away the money of the people to help them "who would not help themselves;" that the farmers were not awake to its importance, that public opinion was not prepared for it, that the practical agriculturists would not organize societies under the law, or if societies were established, it would be, as it had been heretofore, by a few theoretical, public spirited men, calling themselves farmers, but really not working men—that such societies would flourish for a while, make a show or two, and then die away for the want of sound practical farmers to support them, whose honor and whose interest it was to keep them alive; but who had heretofore, from one cause or another, shown an unaccountable apathy in contributing time and money to the support of these societies. That his own county of Jefferson had shown a striking ex-

ample of this fact—a society started there at an early date, and as long as it was supported by the mind and the purse of such excellent and eminent men as its worthy President, James Le Ray de Chaumont, that noble Frenchman who devoted his life to doing good, aided by such men as Gen. Jacob Brown and others, the society flourished; it gave a character to the farming and the stock of the county, and every thing went on admirably. The people and the farmers flocked to the cattle shows and fairs, and were delighted; they were pleasant and delightful holidays for the farmers, their sons and daughters; but when money was called for to pay the expense of the premiums, &c. the practical, hard working farmers, with some noble exceptions, were nowhere to be found—they had gone home and forgot to leave their dollar to help pay the expense. In a few years, God in his inscrutable wisdom, removed some of these men by death—poverty overtook others, and the society, left to the guidance and support of the farmers alone, soon dwindled and shortly expired.

Having seen the whole operation of this thing, I had little faith that any societies would succeed, established upon similar principles and having similar objects in view.

But from the indications which have been exhibited, since the passage of this law, in the county of Jefferson, and from the numbers, and the zeal, and the intelligence I see collected around me, I have changed my opinion, and think the prospect is now bright and cheering; that the law will prove beneficial, and that the county and state societies will succeed, as the real farmers show new life and vigor, and act as though they were resolved to unite their energies and place their own profession in honor, where it is in fact, among the most useful, happy, healthy and respectable occupations of man.

There are a variety of reasons which make me believe that a great and most beneficial change has spread over the state within the fifteen and twenty years past. The farmers of New-York have greatly increased in knowledge within that time; their sons too have come forward with more zeal, more time and more intelligence than their fathers possessed. The circulation of information is much more general, more active, and of a more useful nature than it was. Our agricultural papers scatter much light and knowledge in all parts of the state, and are inculcating the right spirit into the farmers and their sons—they are no longer ashamed to be called farmers, and they begin to see and to feel that they are on the right road to health, to happiness and to fortune.

Our rich men begin to see that they had better make farmers of their sons than lawyers or doctors, if they want them to live long and be blessed with comfort, health, a clear conscience and a competent fortune. It begins to be well understood, that here, as in England, our land owners are destined to be the great men of the nation, its defence, its support, and its honor. Let them be well educated, and they are sure of this; for against them there are no deeply rooted prejudices, but they are now greatly excluded from office, and have to yield to lawyers and doctors, from the inferiority of their education, not of their moral or mental worth.

It is a truth too, beyond all doubt, and as gratifying as it is true, that the number of wealthy and independent farmers has greatly increased within the last quarter of a century.

I can only speak particularly of my own county, where it is a blessed sight to travel among the farmers and see how in a short time things have changed their appearances for the better—how the log cabin has yielded to the beautiful stone, or brick, or wooden mansion, the barn of poles to the stately edifice of boards and timber, the front yard of dirt and filth to the neat lane and shrubbery; and how the whole country has assumed or is rapidly assuming that appearance of neatness, beauty, high cultivation, and comfort, which all American farmers, with honesty, industry and economy, can soon attain to. I dare say other parts of the state are equally changed for the better, and equally sustain the great cause of cultivation and improvement. Add to all this, many men of wealth and taste and science, have devoted their time, and a portion of their wealth, within a few years past, to the importation and rearing of the first order of stock, and while it is hoped they are increasing their ample fortunes, they are becoming the true benefactors of the country, and take an active and prominent part in sustaining the cause of home industry and agriculture.

It is needless to mention their names. One such man

makes himself sufficiently conspicuous by the good he does and the gratitude and respect he commands.

The result of this increase of wealth and intelligence among the farmers, is, that they become more patriotic, more social and more communicative. They are not like other professions—they have no professional secrets—on the contrary, they take a pleasure in communicating whatever will interest, or please, or be useful to their neighbors—if they have a better breed of pigs, cattle or horses, they do not strive to monopolize it; and if they have discovered any thing new in the cultivation of the earth, they disclose it to their neighbors with pleasure and pride. This makes them desire to congregate together, exhibit what they have to show, and communicate what they have to teach and enjoy, at least once a year, the "jubilee" of the farmer. In a country like this, where there are so few holidays of any sort, how reasonable and proper this is, especially since the days of rum drinking are gone by, and they collect and part like temperate and rational men.

Society must arrive at a certain pitch as to knowledge, wealth and comfort, before this can take place. Nor does it detract in the least from the merits of the "pioneers" of the wilderness. Their means were too stinted and their occupations too severe to do any thing but to provide the immediate necessities for themselves and their families.

It is also a truth not to be lost sight of, that we have now a fund of experience, partly growing out of the existence of the old societies, partly from the natural course of events, to direct us in the management of these societies, which we did not formerly possess. One great evil we met with in those days was the mode in which premiums were distributed. It seemed on some occasions like a mere scramble for money, instead of reputation; and the consequence was that we saw little of that disinterested spirit which should characterize alike the disappointed and the successful candidate; and heart burnings and bitter rivalships frequently grew out of it, which misrepresented and impugned the motives of the judges and operated unfortunately.

More or less of this will perhaps now exist, but if good judgment and great precaution are used, most of it can now be avoided, the more easily from the superior intelligence which now prevails. Another way to avoid it is to gratify as many competitors as possible, and for this reason make the premiums more extensive and general, and give them more weight in character than in money.

With all these advantages arising from this increased wealth and progress in knowledge, if the great body of our hard-working farmers will lend their aid in time and money (and but very little from each is needed,) the society is sure to succeed, a noble impulse will be given to the cause of agriculture, and the beneficial operation of the law be felt in all branches of the community. Wealthy and public spirited citizens will be found among our rich merchants and professional men of age and leisure, who will take pleasure and pride in seconding the efforts of the farmers; and thus an institution will be handsomely sustained, calculated to add greatly to the wealth, power and reputation of the State of New-York.

One great advantage, if no other, will grow out of these annual meetings. It will convene together in one great social body, all the leading and efficient friends of agriculture in the state. These meetings will be composed of a high order of men, of congenial feelings and occupations.

Their views will be similar, their objects will accord, their meetings will be social and friendly, they will meet in good cheer, act in concert, and part with the kindest feelings. Can any thing but unmixed good come out of such an association? Party spirit and sectarianism will be banished, and no interest will claim attention but such as a gentleman and a christian can conscientiously support. Such meetings will serve to bind together our republic, and would be useful, even did they not give a new impulse and an additional character to the most useful, necessary and healthy of all occupations. The scene before me of hundreds, of happy, intelligent, independent farmers, collected from all parts of the state, not to engage in political strife and quarrel about office, but met together for their country's good, consulting how best to promote the farming interest, with no jarring interest, and no heart burnings of any sort but good will and benevolence smiling in every countenance, is one of unalloyed pleasure and satisfaction.

The county societies will send their delegations, and thus you will have combined in one body, on any anniversary of the society, an immense mass of intelligence, congregated from every section of the state, bringing into social and happy and profitable intercourse, those who would otherwise be strangers; and who by their proceedings will collect and embody an abundance of useful information, not only upon farming but upon other great interests of the state. One subject will pre-eminently claim their attention, for in traveling to this place it will be deeply impressed upon their minds. I mean that of "internal improvement." This should never be lost sight of, and depend upon it, if our legislators do, the people will not, and if you who have already had your rail-roads and canals will not help others, we will knock at the doors of your legislative halls till you shall hear us,—yes, and aid us too, especially when you are about to have from the public

lands \$480,000 a year, and an enormous income from your canals and salt duties. As farmers have no professional secrets, as they delight to communicate all their discoveries and improvements, and exhibit the best specimens of their skill and their flocks, these meetings cannot be otherwise than useful, as well as most interesting and agreeable. As the occupation of the plow is of no party, as the times are those of temperance, as farmers are characterized by the love of order as well as zeal for the public welfare, being identified with the soil, as they justly realize their responsibilities, being the foundation on which rests the happiness and subsistence of all, there is no danger of any sort to be apprehended from these gatherings, but that they will come and pass off as the jubilees of the farmers always do, with the greatest order and decorum.

If husbandry is made respectable, as it ought to be, it will serve to check one of the greatest evils that bears now heavily upon the community—the rush of our young men into the learned professions, which are already filled to the overflowing, especially that of the law, which, under the present wretched course of legislation, of making litigation cheap, is starving this once honorable and most useful profession.

Yet it is thought to be the high road to office and honor, and ambitious fathers and weak mothers are for making their sons great lawyers and eminent judges. Infatuated policy! The greater share of them never rise higher than respectable pettifoggers. Many of them get disheartened, sink into dissipation and idleness; the best—yes, the very best lead lives of labor and anxiety, drag through a life of dyspepsia and "blue devils," and if they arrive at rank and office, they are made perfect slaves of, with half pay, and get more curses than blessings from their constituents.

The business of the farmer knows no such anxiety, is accompanied with no such risks, it is quiet and peaceful. Make it intelligent, and you open to it the first and highest honors of your country; there are no prejudices against it as against that of the law; there is no limit to it; it is broad and extensive enough for all; a rich and broad domain, the vast possessions of the government lie open to us—it invites to cultivation and improvement. If our rich men will plant themselves in the country, and educate their sons to the care and knowledge of the farm, they would see the land smiling around them, their children be honored in their industry, the occupation of the plow be elevated and respected, their sons prove healthy, robust and strong men, and they and their descendants become, as the land-holders are in England, the great men and strong props of the government. Hard and incessant toil is not essential in any farmer, nor any toil equal to the exhausting unhonored labors of the lawyer and mechanic—a few hours a day devoted to the regulation and superintendence of the farm, affording a most wholesome and agreeable exercise to the body, is all that is requisite in the independent farmer—reading, writing, &c. will pleasantly and profitably occupy the rest of the day.

To my brother lawyers in particular, would I recommend this kind of life as the happiest and the best. They are capable of making good farmers, and when advanced in life they are fit for little else, the strife and rivalry of the law are neither suited to their own temper nor taste. They are often, if not generally, first and foremost in every good work. Let them set the example in this. I regret not meeting more of them on this occasion. It is said to be dull times for them—three hundred are said to have cleared out from the city of New-York. I hoped to have met some of them here—the country and the plow will receive them with open arms, and I give them plenty of honest business. There is room enough for them all. I offer my own experience as a slight and humble instance of what may be easily effected—I have had the pleasure of superintending a farm—I have succeeded to my entire satisfaction—my farm is growing up under my own eye, yearly developing new beauties and new sources of income and improvement, and if it does not make me a richer, it makes me a healthier, and I trust a better man. In fact dyspepsia and the blue devils immediately left me. I am conscious that the occupation is an honest one; I know it is a healthy and pleasant one; and as it interferes with no man, it is a peaceful one, and all nature tells me it is one that God will bless and prosper.

L. F. ALLEN, Esq. of Buffalo, followed Mr. Sterling, and deeply interested the audience by his happy combination of theory and practice, his plain straight forward manner, his reflections and illustrations, evidently the result of experience, and the earnest manner in which he enforced the facts presented. We are gratified in being able to state that no wine or spirits was provided, and the event showed that they were not needed to enable farmers to talk or hear. This is an example which we hope will be followed on all similar occasions.

The beautiful cattle and horses on the ground were evidently the lions of the first day, and the continued throngs of spectators around the pens that contained the fine animals of Sherwood and Prentice, Corning and Bement, and the warm expressions of admiration they elicited from the observers, must have been gratifying to the spirited proprietors. There was also another point of attraction which drew crowds on this day. There were three yoke of fat cattle on the ground, two from Onondaga county and one from Ontario, which would of themselves have constituted no inferior exhibition, weighing as the six animals did, not far from eighteen thousand pounds. It is much questioned whether any

part of the United States can show their superiors. They were in truth mountains of flesh. One of these fine premium cattle, the property of Mr. Rust of the Syracuse House, has since the Fair been slaughtered, and the proprietor, with characteristic liberality, transmitted one quarter of the superior beef to Albany, to be sold for the benefit of the State Agricultural Society. Live weight of the ox slaughtered, Sept. 25, 2,750 lbs.—Weight after he was dressed, including hide and tallow, 2,169 lbs.—His quarters alone, weighed 1,784 lbs.

On the evening of the first day, the large Presbyterian Church was filled to overflowing, to listen to an address to the Society from President NOTT of Union College. The address was what was to have been expected from the occasion, and from the man. The subject was a noble one, "The Dignity of Labor," and beautifully and forcibly was it illustrated and treated.

The hearty applause with which the address was received by the audience, spoke most eloquently their approval of the patriotic and dignified truths to which they had listened. But of the address, it is unnecessary to say more at present, as we hope before long to have the pleasure of laying it in extenso before our readers, as a committee, consisting of Messrs. H. Baldwin of Syracuse, M. Sterling of Watertown, and I. Smith of Albany, were appointed to request a copy for the press.

On the second day the trial of plows to test their draft, and the plowing match under the direction of the Onondaga Society, came off, and as was to have been expected, excited much interest among the numerous farmers in attendance. The ground selected by the committee of arrangements, was on the farm of J. H. Johnson, Esq. on the great plain of the Onondaga valley, and near the southern boundary of the city corporation. The ground was hard and dry, falling to pieces when turned up by the plows, rendering it difficult to make a clean furrow, or show the precise manner of the working of the implements. The effort among the plowmen, to the spectators, seemed to be to do the work well, rather than quickly, and considering the nature of the ground plowed, the work in general was done in a way that proved the skill of the plowman as well as the goodness of the implements used. That frequent defect in plows, and in plowing, was, however, in some instances observed here. Instead of the bottom of the furrow being left flat, owing either to a defect in the implements or the holding, the land side of the furrow was cut much deeper than the other, thus giving an uneven or notched appearance to a cross section of the furrows, and failing to stir the ground equally to the same apparent depth. Most unfortunately for the competitors in the plowing match, or the comfort of the crowd of spectators, a cold drizzling rain was falling, which materially interfered with the performances. For the result of and trial of draft we must refer to the report.

A new plow, presented by Messrs. Ruggles, Nourse & Co. of Worcester, (Mass.) to the senior editor of the Cultivator, was on the ground at the plowing match, and though not offered for the premiums, it excited much notice from the excellence of its materials, manufacture, and just construction, as well as for the perfection and ease of its work.

The show of agricultural implements was most satisfactory. The number of thrashing machines, horse-powers, straw-cutters, fanning mills, plows, harrows, cultivators, barrows, drills, cradles, sythes, pitchforks, horse-rakes, &c. &c. was very great, and exhibited much mechanical ingenuity and skill. These, with the farm products, horticultural articles, and domestic manufactures, formed a collection of much interest and variety. Such was the dense mass of spectators which filled every room and avenue of the court house, that it was with no little difficulty the committees obtained access during the hours of exhibition; and it was evident that a proper arrangement of all the articles would require a far more spacious building.

At 2 o'clock the rail-road depot, in its large extent, was filled to hear the premiums announced, and so many of the reports of the several committees as were prepared. The decisions in general appeared to give satisfaction, although in some instances, as usual in such cases, many of the spectators may have differed from the judges, and the numerous premiums awarded were paid to the successful competitors in gold or plate, at their option, it being generally understood that the Benton mint drops are considered unobjectionable "per se," and never injurious to the farmer.

About nine hundred persons sat down to dinner at the Syracuse House on the second day, and as on the first day, the feast was enlivened by several excellent speeches from gentlemen present. Among these were Mayor VAN VECHTEN of Albany; Mr. GARRETT of Monroe; Mr. PATTERSON, ex-Speaker of the Assembly; Mr. BALDWIN of Syracuse; Mr. SANFORD, President of the Onondaga Agricultural Society, and several other gentlemen.

We are happy to be able to give the remarks of Mr. Baldwin on this occasion, and regret similar reports from the other speakers have not been furnished.

The President of the Society, JOEL B. NOTT, Esq. having, in a very complimentary manner, alluded to the action of the committee of arrangements, and the manner in which the Society had been received by the citizens of Syracuse, H. BALDWIN, Esq. one of the committee of arrangements rose and remarked—

I could wish, Mr. President, that the pleasurable duty of returning thanks to the Board of the New-York State Agricultural Society had fallen into abler hands. It is, sir, no unmeaning compliment when I assure you, in behalf of the citizens of Syracuse and the inhabitants of the county of Onondaga, that we are indeed greatly obliged to you for establishing your first Agricultural Fair, under the late law appropriating the funds of the State in aid of our cause, in this village—and we are the more happy if we have in any way succeeded in our arrangements in giving satisfaction to the board. If in anything we have come short of our duty, it has been owing to inexperience and want of judgment, and not from any want of disposition on our part to please. We hope, sir, these visits may be annually repeated, and aided by the light, which the experience of this year affords, we will endeavor to make our arrangements more perfect in future; at all events we will at all times give you a most hearty welcome. From the allusion, sir, which you were pleased to make to our own county agricultural society, it may be expected that I should say something on that subject.

It is but a short time, sir, since the organization of our present society—this is our third fair. It may not be uninteresting to dwell for a moment upon some of the difficulties we had to encounter in getting our society under way.

It is now about six years since, when a few friends united in a public call of an agricultural convention. To our great mortification, when the time arrived, not more than eight or ten were found in attendance, but, sir, those eight or ten individuals were true men—we had enlisted in the cause and were determined not to be discouraged or driven from our purpose, but to "go ahead."

We adopted an address and passed a set of resolutions which had been previously prepared, and gave to our convention, upon paper at least, all the appearance of a pretty formidable one. We resolved among other things to memorialize the legislature then in session, and procure an act of incorporation. This was done, the act was passed, but owing to causes not necessary to detail, two years were allowed to pass away before we organized. But, sir, we did organize, established a fair for that very year, which was well attended, and from that day to this, have been in the full tide of successful experiment.

I have dwelt thus long on this early history of our affairs in order to show our friends that however discouraging matters may appear in the beginning, they should not be discouraged or give back, but press on, and success will ultimately crown their efforts. And in order to show too, how important results flow from small beginnings. If I am not altogether misinformed, this very exhibition is owing in part to those causes, trifling as they are. At the period to which I have referred, the New-York State Agricultural Society was itself struggling for existence—but a few devoted friends were then at work and alone sustaining that institution. Almost ready to despair, and looking abroad through the dim distance to catch a view of their future prospect, they beheld with joy our beacon light, small and feeble as it was—it inspired them with new hope—they saw that here at least were a few congenial spirits, laboring in the same cause with them, and they resolved that they would go up and worship at the same shrine together. Oh, sir, it is a glorious cause—next to disseminating the principles of our holy religion, there is perhaps no way in which man can benefit his fellow man so much and effectually, as in this. And here sir, you will pardon me for a moment if I briefly advert to a very few of those distinguished individuals who have passed from among us, but who when living, gave it the aid of their talents, character and influence.

At the head of this list, in our own state, stands the name of the much and universally lamented DE WITT CLINTON. Always the patron of science and the arts, while governor of the state, he at an early period invited the attention of the legislature to the subject, and by his recommendation our first societies were established. His hand first put the ball in motion, and although at times partially arrested in its course, it is still rolling on from the momentum which he gave it, accelerated, it is true, by those who have succeeded him. In his successful endeavors to develop the resources of the state, he not only increased its produce but opened a high way to market. His name and memory will ever be gratefully cherished by the farmers of New-York.

Next in order of time, but perhaps not in influence, stands the name of the late JESSE BUEL. He established The Cultivator and an Experimental Farm—by his writings in the one and his labors on the other, he has given an impulse to agriculture which is now, and will continue to be, felt by generations yet unborn—he was indeed a public benefactor.

Many other illustrious names might be added to the list, but I forbear—time will not permit. Let us not, however, while we thus bear our grateful testimony to the dead, be altogether un mindful of the living; there is one at least who has honored us by his presence and services on this occasion, whom, you will all agree, we should not pass over in silence.

If it be true, sir, as we have this day heard, that that individual who causes two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before, is entitled to the appellation and rank of a public benefactor, what praise is due and what shall be said of him whose whole life

has been spent in multiplying not matter but mind—in implanting new ideas—in inculcating and instilling moral, virtuous and religious principles—in unfolding the mental faculties—in leading with parental care, thousands of the youth of our country (some of whom now grace the highest stations in our land,) through all the mazes and labyrinths of the abstruser sciences and the higher departments of literature and the arts, and who, (in his sphere,) like the sun of heaven, sheds his rays and benign influence upon all surrounding objects—dispelling the gloom—warming the heart—quickening the pulse and enlightening the understanding. Such an individual, sir, though now absent, has honored us by his presence on this occasion; and great and glorious as it is, such is his elevation of character, that he has rather honored it, than been honored by it. An individual, sir, whose name will be remembered and revered as long as christianity has a disciple—morality and virtue an advocate—genius an admirer, or science and the arts a votary. I need not tell you that I allude to the Rev. Doctor NOTT, the orator of the day.

There is another distinguished individual whose absence on this occasion we all regret, but whose name, being closely associated with the object of our pursuit, I beg leave to mention. An individual who for nearly twenty-five years, presided with signal ability in one of the highest tribunals in our state, and, from the high character of whose judicial decisions, is favorably known not only to the state, but to the civilized world.

In the full enjoyment of all his faculties, he has, since retiring from the bench, which he so much adorned, occupied his time to some extent in that primitive, rational and delightful employment, agriculture—enlightening and adorning this, as he has every other pursuit of his long and useful life. In this hasty sketch, brief and imperfect as it is, you will all recognize Chief Justice SPENCER, and will all unite with me in the sincere aspiration, that the sunset of his days may be as calm and serene as his eventful life has been long and useful.

There is yet another individual who though absent has manifested his attachment to our cause, by sending hither his two sons, and constituting them by the payment of the required sum, members for life. An individual, sir, who, when the entire western portion of our state was a dense and unbroken forest, plunged deep into its bosom and located himself upon a large tract of its best soil, since which time he has remained its successful occupant. He is emphatically one of the pioneers of the west. His ample domain, embracing more than 30,000 acres, is in a high state of cultivation—his granaries groaning under their burthen—his fertile vales and meadows—his beautiful lawns and woodlands, his rich pasturage, and his flocks upon a thousand hills, are the rich reward of nearly half a century of persevering, successful agricultural toil. Distinguished alike by his equanimity of temperament, blandness of manner, and benevolent disposition, he has long since received the well merited appellation of "The Gentleman Farmer," "The Princely Agriculturist." I need scarcely tell you, that I refer to Mr. WADSWORTH of Geneseo. These are the men, and these the living examples we want to elevate and aid our cause.

I have thus, sir, briefly referred to some distinguished names among both the dead and living, to show who are and have been our co-workers, and what individual effort will accomplish.

But, sir, there is yet another cause still more powerful, to which I beg leave for a moment to refer. I mean the press—the public press—that mighty Archimedian lever of power—that matchless engine which stirs and lifts up the whole body politic at one poise—that speaks with a thousand tongues to a whole nation at once, and that in fact does the work. All other causes and aids are merely auxiliary to this. Cast your mind back sir, to the period when the Cultivator and Genesee Farmer were first established; how low in our state, how drooping, how benighted, nay, how degraded was the science and the pursuit of agriculture—how depressed in the scale of human employment, and how little understood was scientific husbandry—and yet by the continued droppings of those two fountains, the adamant of public prejudice has been worn away—the rock of ignorance has been perforated—the rays of science and the light of experience has broken through, and the New-York farmer stands now revealed in his true character—it is now discovered that the pursuit of agriculture is no mean employment. For all this we are indebted to the press, and mainly to those two organs.

In conclusion, I beg leave, therefore, to give as a sentiment—

The press—the public press, and especially the agricultural periodicals of our own state. Distinguished by unusual talent, industry and zeal—they are powerful levers acting upon public sentiment—uprooting ancient prejudices—enlightening the public mind—elevating and ennobling agricultural pursuits—May they receive a generous support by every member of this society and every friend of the cause.

On the third day, the Executive Committee, by invitation, examined various articles accidentally overlooked by the committees, owing to their being improperly placed. Among these were beautiful specimens of salt presented by H. SMITH of Salina, a most superior article, and manufactured in such a way as to remove every objection against the strength and purity of the

Onondaga salt; also specimens of table knives and forks, a fine article of American manufacture, made by Messrs. G. & D. N. Ropes, and presented by MARSH & WHEATON of Syracuse. They also had the pleasure of examining specimens of mulberry, presented by THOMAS MELLEN, Esq. of Madison, the *Morus Oregona*, or Oregon mulberry, discovered in the territory of that name west of the Rocky Mountains. The leaves of this mulberry are larger, thicker, and more fleshy than those of the multicaulis; while it is said by Mr. Mellen, to be harder than any other variety of the mulberry, enduring the winters of this region without injury. Mr. Mellen, from his experience, contends that the cocoons fed on this variety of the mulberry are superior both in weight and quality, to those fed on any other with which he is acquainted.

On the third day, the board of arrangements and various other gentlemen visited the farm of FLETCHER WOODWARD, Esq. which received the first premium of the Onondaga County Agricultural Society, offered for the best farm. Mr. Woodward's farm lies on the strata which crosses the county from east to west, immediately below the upper limestone masses, and like that of the greater part of those similarly situated, is of great fertility, and easily cultivated. The visitors were much pleased with the neatness, order, and high culture shown on Mr. Woodward's farm, and we doubt not, from the statement made of the crops harvested, that he finds in the good management of his farm a profit as well as pleasure. The board also made a brief call at the farm of GEORGE GEDDES, Esq. a short distance west of Syracuse, well known as a practical farmer of much merit. Here they examined some hydraulic machinery of a new and simple construction, invented by Mr. Geddes, used for watering his extensive farm, and which is also made applicable for several other useful purposes. They were much pleased with specimens of gates and farming implements invented and constructed by Mr. Geddes, as well as with the general appearance of his extensive farm.

J. G. KING, Esq. of N. York, forwarded for exhibition, and presented to the State Agricultural Society, some fine specimens of the Neapolitan hog. Under the direction of a committee of the board, these animals were distributed among the following gentlemen: H. S. Randall of Cortland; Harvey Baldwin and George Geddes of Onondaga; Ezra Cornell of Ithaca; and Dr. Button and Samuel Hecox of Wayne county. The gentlemen receiving them, are expected to make a full trial of their merits, and report to the society at a future time. They much resemble the Berkshires, with round bodies, and thick hams, but are finer in the head and ears. They are nearly destitute of hair, (which is their most marked peculiarity,) are black, and said by Mr. King to fatten with unrivaled facility, and to make pork fine and of superior quality. They much resemble the original Siamese, which, crossed with the original Berkshire hog, has produced the beautiful improved Berkshire of the present day.

In the departments of implements, products, horses, cattle, and swine, the exhibition was such as to satisfy all reasonable anticipations, and do honor to the state, but in that of sheep the paucity was so great as to constitute the most material and marked defect of the Fair. It must be considered singular that in a county containing some 15,000 sheep, many of the flocks of pure Saxon or Merino, and grade sheep of all varieties, and in a state with more than four millions of this valuable animal, so very few should have been offered for exhibition; but we have the consolation of knowing that this disappointment is one which will not recur again, and that hereafter this important part of our domestic animals, and to which so much of our prosperity is owing, will be fully represented.

Award of Premiums.

CATTLE—CLASS I.—BULLS—3 years old and over.

- To J. M. Sherwood, Auburn, for his bull "Archer," bred by P. Rotch, Butternuts, 1st prize.
To E. P. Prentice, Albany, for his bull "Nero," bred by himself, 2d prize.
To C. N. Bement, Albany, for his bull "Astoria," bred by himself, 3d prize.
To Silas Gaylord, Skaneateles, for his bull "Splendid," 4th prize.

"There were several other animals [in this class] on the ground, possessing in the estimation of your committee, high grades of excellence, and they only regret that the premiums were not more numerous. Among these, your committee particularly noticed the animals of Mr. McIntyre, Mr. Van Bergen, Mr. Fonda, and Mr. Sears."—[Report of the Committee.]

CLASS II.—BULLS—2 years old.

- To John Johnston, Fayette, Seneca co., for his bull "Royal William," bred by G. V. Sackett, Seneca Falls, 1st prize.
To Thomas A. Clark, Chittenango, for his bull "Young Warden," bred by Thomas Hollis, Gilbertsville, 2d prize.
To D. D. Campbell, Schenectady, for his bull "Rotterdam," bred by himself, 3d prize.
To Nicholas Garner, Burlington, for his bull "—," bred by himself, 4th prize.

CLASS III.—BULLS—1 year old.

- To Moses Kinney, Cortlandville, for his bull "Daniel Webster," bred by G. V. Sackett, Seneca Falls, 1st prize.
To Enoch Marks, Navarino, for his bull "Brutus," 2d prize.
To Benjamin Stoker, Cortland co., for his bull "—," 3d prize.
To Joseph Baker, Onondaga co., for his bull "—," 4th prize.

"Your committee beg leave to express their regret, that though the exhibition in classes II. and III. were very numerous, yet but few of the animals were in what they considered common store order, which rendered

the effort of comparison with such as were high fed very difficult."—[Report of Com.]

CLASS IV.—COWS.

- To John M. Sherwood, Auburn, for his cow "Stella," bred by F. Rotch, 5 years old, 1st prize.
To Ezra P. Prentice, Albany, for his cow "Daisy," 3 years old, bred by himself, 2d prize.
To John M. Sherwood, Auburn, for his cow "Daisy," 12 years old, 3d prize.
To John M. Sherwood, Auburn, for his cow "Pansey," 5 years old, bred by F. Rotch, 4th prize.
To Corning & Sotham, Albany, for their Hereford cow "Matchless," imported, an extra prize, equal to the highest premium awarded on cattle.

"Your committee further report, that a new and beautiful race of cattle were presented for their examination, the Herefords, imported by a distinguished breeder of cattle, residing in Albany county, which they take pleasure in recommending to the attention of those who desire to improve their stock. Your committee recommend a special premium of twenty dollars for the Hereford cow Matchless, as we consider her a very superior animal; and they would also suggest the propriety of offering and awarding premiums for the best blooded animals of each individual breed, Improved Short Horned Durhams, Herefords, and Devons, at their next annual agricultural meeting, in addition to premiums offered for the best animals of any breed."—[Report of Com.]

CLASS V.—TWO YEARS OLD HEIFERS.

- To John M. Sherwood, Auburn, for his heifer "Sylvia," bred by F. Rotch, 1st prize.
To E. P. Prentice, Albany, for his heifer "Diana," bred by himself, 2d prize.
To Corning & Sotham, Albany, for their Short Horn and Hereford heifer Eliza, imported, 3d prize.

CLASS VI.—YEARLING HEIFERS.

- To Ezra P. Prentice, Albany, for his yearling calf "Charlotte," bred by himself, 1st prize.
To John M. Sherwood, Auburn, for his yearling calf "Norna," bred by H. S. Randall, Cortlandville, 2d prize.
To John M. Sherwood, Auburn, for his yearling heifer "Dianthe," bred by J. Alexander, Burlington, 3d prize.
To William Fuller, Skaneateles, for his heifer calf "—," bred by himself, 4th prize.

All the animals, on which the above prizes were awarded, with the exception of the Hereford cow and the Short Horn and Hereford heifer of Messrs. Corning & Sotham, were thorough-bred improved Short Horns.

CLASS VII.—GRADE COWS.

- To William Ward, Camillus, for his 8 years old half blood Holstein cow, 1st prize.
To W. H. Sotham, Perch Lake Farm, for his half blood Durham cow, No. 1, 2d prize.
To W. H. Sotham, Perch Lake Farm, for his half blood Durham cow, No. 2, 3d prize.
To W. H. Sotham, Perch Lake Farm, for his half blood Devonshire cow, 4th prize.

"The best grade cow which came under our observation, belonged to G. V. Sacket of Seneca Falls, but he being one of the committee, generously withdrew her from competition."—[Report of Com.]

CLASS VIII.—GRADE HEIFERS.

- To H. S. Randall, Cortlandville, for his roan heifer, bred by himself, 1st prize.
To G. V. Sacket, Seneca Falls, for his red and white heifer, bred by himself, 2d prize.
To G. V. Sacket, Seneca Falls, for his roan heifer, bred by himself, 3d prize.
To H. S. Randall, Cortlandville, for his red and white heifer, bred by himself, 4th prize.

CLASS IX.—NATIVE COWS.

"The committee on native cows would report that very few cows, and those of an inferior quality, were to be found in the pens; and they probably not intended for exhibition. They regret that the farmers in this vicinity should have refrained from taking advantage of the very liberal encouragement offered by this society, by the false impression that cows were going to be brought from a distance which would have eclipsed the cows of this neighborhood. We are unwilling to believe that there are not cows in this village and vicinity that would have honored the exhibition, and been a credit to the state. They regret that a matter so important as the improvement of our native cows does not excite more attention. Such cows must of necessity be the ground work of much of the improvement in cattle. If a farmer has a cow possessing some excellent qualities, he is prepared to improve in any desirable point. The general dissemination of high blood animals renders such crossings easy and cheap; and it is a matter yet at issue whether such crosses will not make the most desirable animal for the common farmer. We want the best native cows for such crosses, and the committee are of opinion that the Executive Committee of the State Society are holding out liberal encouragement for active competition in the matter of improving our native cattle. In conclusion, we would add that we hope that no future committee will be under the necessity of reporting no competition, but let the farmer, the lawyer, the merchant, and mechanic, bring forward their best cows, and render it a matter of nice discrimination to decide between them."—[Report of Com.]

CLASS X.—WORKING OXEN.

- To Caleb Gasper, Marcellus, 1st prize.
To Samuel Allen, Jr., New-Haven, 2d prize.

FAT CATTLE.

- To P. N. Rust, Syracuse, for the best yoke of fat oxen, one of which was bred by G. V. Sacket, 1st prize.

BULL CALVES.

- To Ezra P. Prentice, Albany, for his thorough bred improved Durham bull calf "Homer," 17 months old, bred by himself, 1st prize.

* This calf was sold by Mr. Prentice, at the Fair, to Mr. Dunn of Lyons, for \$250, cash.

To Samuel Phelps, Ira, for his grade Devonshire, 2d prize.

TO BREEDERS.

- To Francis Rotch, Butternuts, as the breeder of the best bull, prize.
To the same, as the breeder of the best cow, prize.
To the same, as the breeder of the best 2 years old heifer, prize.

[The premiums to breeders having been offered by Mr. Rotch, he declined receiving more than a Certificate of the Award, leaving the money (\$30) with the Society, to be offered in premiums for the same purpose next year.]

HORSES—STALLIONS.

- To Nathan A. Cooper, New-York city, for his bay horse "Messenger," got by Membrino, dam by imported Messenger, 1st prize.
To J. B. Thompson, Fayetteville, for his bay horse "Young Membrino," got by Mr. Thorn's Eclipse, dam by Membrino, 2d prize.
To P. & G. Warren, Manlius, for their grey horse "Messenger," got by Ehle Messenger, dam Queen Ann, 3d prize.
To Caleb Gasper, Marcellus, for his bay horse "Gasper," pedigree not known—4th prize.

MARES.

- To Samuel Townsend, Canterbury, for his bay mare "Lady Syracuse," by "Onondaga," out of "Lady of the Lake," 1st prize.
To W. Colton, Lenox, for his grey mare, 2d prize.
To Wm. Cook, Lyander, for his bay mare, 3d prize.

"The committee on horses who have had the honor of being selected by the society, having examined the different horses exhibited to them with much care and attention, make the following report; in doing which your committee have endeavored, so far as their judgment would lead them, to take into consideration the interest and use of the farmer, as to the kind, form, size and blood of the horse from which the farmer should breed.

1st. We consider the kind should consist of the horse, which, at market, would bring the largest price. An inferior horse can always be obtained for less money than it will require to raise him.

2d. The form we consider should consist of sufficient height, length and breadth, well and strongly connected, placed on a set of limbs calculated to carry the same; the limbs to be composed of bone and sinew, and that alone, free from all flesh, gum, &c. and we would add, clean and as free from hair as possible.

3d. The size of a horse, the experience of your committee has led them to believe should be sixteen hands, or as near that height as possible, considering that size the most saleable, which to the farmer and breeder is certainly very desirable.

4th. The blood of a horse, although lastly named, is by no means (in the minds of your committee,) the least requisite, and we consider should consist of that which has proved itself of the greatest endurance, and in the judgment of your committee, no competition can be selected with that of England, from which in our humble estimation, the finest blood has been obtained by the energy and enterprise of many American gentlemen, at very costly prices; we would instance the blood of Old Messenger, which has proved itself in every quarter of the state to which it has been taken, and is well known to all farmers and breeders of horses.

Adopting these principles for their guidance, the committee adjudged the premiums as given above. The committee conclude their report as follows:

Your committee will here remark that many other stallions were shown; the want of limb in some, movement in others, and figure and size in most of them, prevented them from competition with those named. We would also remark that the horse called Sampson, (imported,) although a horse having great size, still in our judgment, wants the requisite qualifications for a farmer to breed from; and also the Canadian grey horse, we cannot approve of, for the reasons given, believing that we as a committee were to be governed in our judgment and decision by the simple fact of deciding from which horse, we, as farmers and breeders of horses, would breed. We would however say that the gentlemen who have imported those horses and have been to the trouble of exhibiting them, deserve the thanks of the society. We also have the pleasure to state, that your committee were unanimous in making the above report. We regret that the exhibition of mares and colts generally, were rather of an inferior order, and not such as farmers should breed from."—[Report of Com.]

SHEEP—CLASS I.—LONG WOOLED.

- To Corning & Sotham, Albany, for their imported Cotswold buck, No. 1, 1st prize.
To Corning & Sotham, Albany, for their imported Cotswold buck, No. 2, 2d prize.
To Corning & Sotham, Albany, for their imported Cotswold buck, No. 3, 3d prize.
To Robert S. Musson, Gilbertsville, for his pen of three Leicester ewes, being the only ones in this class, presented for exhibition, 2d prize.

"The committee would make honorable mention of three ewes presented by Mr. Henry Clift of Onondaga, which were a cross between the long woolled and the short woolled varieties, but inasmuch as they did not come exactly under the class they were requested to examine, they could not award a premium to Mr. Clift, which under other circumstances they would have been very happy to have done."—[Report of Com.]

CLASS II.—MIDDLE WOOLED.

- To Francis Rotch, Butternuts, for his South Down buck, 1st prize.
To Uri Jackson, Jr., Butternuts, for his South Down buck, 2d prize.
To John Snook, Skaneateles, for his South Down buck, 3d prize.
To Francis Rotch, Butternuts, for his pen of three South Down ewes, 1st prize.

There being no others presented, the other premiums were not awarded.

CLASS III.—FINE WOOLED.

- To Daniel Marsh, Pompey, for his buck, 2d prize.
To Chester Moses, Marcellus, for his pen of ewes, 2d prize.

"The committee have first to express their great disappointment, on account of the very few sheep exhibited for premiums on this highly important occasion. And second, the indifferent character of those which came under their examination.

In reference to the first remark, it is unnecessary to say, that the disappointment, and we may justly add, chagrin, now no less entertained by the immense body of spectators than by the committee—and it is confidently hoped and expected that on no future occasion of this kind will like disappointment again occur. The state of New-York has within its borders no less than five millions of sheep, and how astounding will it appear abroad, when the fact is made known, that but barely seven sheep were exhibited of the class coming under the cognizance of the committee!! When it is a truth, and well known, that no state in the Union can produce so great a proportion of sheep producing fine wool, compared with the whole number within its bounds. The causes of this meagre display, however, are several and very obvious; and first, the expense of transportation, but more particularly timidity, grounded on the expectation of great competition and consequently an apprehension of failure to obtain an award. This should not be so, for if many are disappointed, let it be noted and remembered, that on all future occasions of this kind, animals characterized by general excellence will meet with ready sale, and at prices much exceeding those in the immediate neighborhood where they belong. This remark is confirmed by the large number of wool growers who have come here at this time—and many from a distance—to make purchases of the class of sheep under consideration."—[Report of Com.]

SWINE.

- To C. N. Bement, Albany, for his Berkshire boar, Rip Van Winkle, 1st prize.
To Jesse Campbell, Sullivan, for his Berkshire boar, 2d prize.
To E. N. Rust, Syracuse, for his Leicester boar, 3d prize.
To Samuel Hecox, Lyons, for his Leicester boar, 4th prize.
To C. N. Bement, Albany, for his Berkshire sow, 1st prize.
To Anthony Van Bergen, Coxsackie, for his Berkshire sow, 2d prize.
To Wm. McKnight, Syracuse, for his Berkshire sow, 3d prize.
To L. G. Collins, Butternuts, for his Berkshire sow, 4th prize.

ON PLOWS.

- To Howard Delano, Mottsville, 1st prize.
To E. G. Holladay, Dansville, for the Lochlan Plow, 2d prize.
To Elijah Wilson, Vernon, for the Livingston County Plow, No. 4, 3d prize.
To Chester Dexter, Utica, for the Wisconsin Plow, 4th prize.
To Mooers & Slater, Ithaca, for their double mold-board side-hill plow, an extra prize, equal to the first premium.
To Stevens Cook, for an improvement in the Onondaga Plow, an extra prize of \$5.

"The committee appointed by the executive board to examine and test the valuable properties and improvements in the plow, beg leave to report, that they have had a most arduous duty to perform. Near 20 of them were presented for our inspection, and the committee are free to say that they never have seen so great a number of remarkably excellent plows together before, and have to regret that they are circumscribed in their award of premiums, when they are confident so many are entitled to the favor of the society.

After as careful an examination of the subject as we have been able to give, and a trial of plows by the dynamometer, we have awarded the first premium of \$30 to Howard Delano, for a very beautiful and highly finished plow, with a new form of a cutter in place of the common coulter, which we consider an improvement well worthy of a fair trial among the farmers of the country.

The second premium of \$20, the committee have awarded to E. G. Holladay, for his plow, already favorably known as the Laughlin plow, and which the committee found to work by trial with the Dynamometer with great ease of draft and steadiness.

The third premium of \$10, the committee award to Elijah Wilson, for a very fine well made and well proportioned plow, called the Livingston County Plow, No. 4.

The fourth premium, a diploma of the society, the committee award to Chester Dexter of Utica, for his Wisconsin Plow.

The committee have also determined to award an honorary premium equal to the first premium on plows, \$30, to Moore & Slater, for a newly invented double mold-board side hill plow, which the committee believe will prove a very valuable acquisition to the farmer for many other purposes besides side hill plowing, it having performed admirably handsome work upon a level surface.

The committee also award a premium of \$5, to Stevens Cook for an improvement made by him in the mode of fastening the land side of the Onondaga Plow, including a very good model.

The committee cannot close without saying that owing to the unpleasantness of the day, and the want of time, they were unable to devote that attention to this important subject, that this most important of all agricultural implements require, and we most earnestly recommend to the society to devote more attention to this matter another year, and we hope that the competitors who have been unsuccessful this year will not be discouraged, but will continue to press forward in this grand work, recollecting that the committee distinctly say that the whole collection of plows exhibited were

such as do great credit to American manufacturers of agricultural implements."—[Report of Com.]

CULTIVATORS AND DRILLS.

To C. N. Bement, Albany, for the best Cultivator, 1st prize.
To Anthony Van Bergen, Coxsackie, 2d prize.
To Calvin Olds, of Vermont, for a Drill Barrow, 2d prize.

THRASHING MACHINES.

To A. Douglass, Skaneateles, for Thrashing Machine, 1st prize.
To Henry Olds, Syracuse, 2d prize.
To D. G. Stafford, Syracuse, 3d prize.

HORSE POWERS.

To Norman Ackley, Rochester, Dibble's Horse power, 1st prize.
To David G. Stafford, Syracuse, 2d prize.
To Archibald Douglass, Skaneateles, 3d prize.

STRAW CUTTERS.

To Jonathan S. Wilcox, Auburn, for Gilson's Machine, 1st prize.
To J. S. Wright, Jordan, 2d prize.
To W. B. Abbott, Syracuse, 3d prize.

HORSE RAKES.

But one was exhibited, and as there was no competition, the 2d prize only was awarded to A. Holbrook, Whitesboro'.

SOWING MACHINE.

To Julius Hatch, Rochester, for a machine for sowing seeds and plaster, a prize of \$10.

PITCHFORKS.

To Lewis Sandford, East Solon, a premium of \$5, for half a dozen, of superior manufacture for strength and finish.

FANNING MILLS.

To Orrin Heffron, Dryden, 1st prize.
To James Beebe, Sullivan, 2d prize.
To John Gilbert, Lyons, 3d prize.

AGRICULTURIST'S FURNACE.

To Jordon L. Mott, New-York, for his Agriculturist's Furnace and Cauldron, a silver cup.

SMUT MACHINE.

To Jereh Durkee, Utica, for "Grimes' Patent Smut Machine," a premium of \$20.

The committee report, that they have examined with great satisfaction "Grimes' Patent Smut Machine," presented by Mr. J. Durkee, of Utica; and in all its parts they have found it simple and permanent in its construction, and in a manner to preclude the possibility of heat. They have also viewed one of the machines in operation, and its performance upon a very smutty quality of wheat, so much so as to be unsaleable in any market—and with a single operation of this machine, was rendered pure and clean.

The committee, with much pleasure, observe that in their opinion, this machine surpasses all others which have come within their knowledge, in many years experience in the milling business; and they deem the introduction of it of great importance to millers and wheat growers, and most cheerfully award a premium of Twenty Dollars to Mr. Durkee, in accordance with the resolution of the State Agricultural Society to award premiums in cases of no competition when the implement is highly meritorious.—[Report of the Com.]

ROOT CUTTER.

To Wm. Thorburn, Albany, for Fowk's machine, a prize of \$2.

SILK, &c.

To Mrs. D. Carter, of East Bloomfield, for samples of 100 skeins of sewing silk of 74 different shades, samples of fringe and silk prepared for weaving, 1 pair silk hose, 2 pair mitts, 1 purse, 1 piece of cloth from silk floss, a premium of \$20.
To Mrs. Melora Shove, Onondaga, for 100 skeins of sewing silk, a premium of \$10.
To Mrs. Harvey Baldwin, Syracuse, for specimens of Needle-work, a prize.

The committee on Silk Culture have examined samples submitted for inspection by the following persons: THOMAS MELLE, of the town and county of Madison:

1st. Four skeins of reeled silk, of different numbers of filaments to each thread, and fed on different varieties of mulberry.

2d. Several varieties of cocoons, fed on different varieties of the *Morus multicaulis*, and made by different kinds of worms, as the Peanut, Sulphur, Orange, and Two Crop.

3d. A fine, but small, sample of sewing silk.

4th. He showed a sample of the trees and leaves of a variety of Mulberry which he calls *Morus Oregona*, which he represents as possessing excellencies not to be found in any other; his cocoons were very fine, and his samples of silk showed an elegant lustre; his trees were very small, but their leaves large, and taken all together were meritorious. However much the Committee may have been pleased with Mr. Mellen's samples, they would have been more gratified had they been larger.

By Mr. ROBINS, of Brighton, Monroe county:

A small sample of sewing silk, manufactured very handsomely, dyed and put up with taste and success, worthy of encouragement to all new beginners.

By Mrs. MELORA SHOVE, of the town and county of Onondaga:

A large sample of sewing silk, successfully manufactured, and that upon the common spinning-wheel and reel, handsomely skinned, after having been beautifully colored, and all this without instruction, evincing much perseverance and crowned with corresponding success.

By Mr. LEONARD, of Carthage, Jefferson county:

1st. A sample of beautiful floss from the pierced cocoons, together with samples of valuable knitting yarn manufactured therefrom, a valuable article.

2d. An elegant sample of reeled silk with a large sample of sewing silk, all handsomely manufactured in his own family, and upon the ordinary spinning-wheel

and reel—the sewing of beautiful and various colors, a very successful experiment.

3d. Samples of Sulphur and Orange cocoons, fed on *Multicaulis* and were a fine size and firm. Mr. Leonard also exhibited a model of a feeding frame, combining much that is useful with some that is new. The ingenuity, perseverance and success of Mr. Leonard commends him to the approbatory notice of the Society, and a worthy example to all who may feel disposed to enter upon the silk culture.

By THOMAS GOODSSELL, of Utica, Oneida county:

1st. A specimen of outside floss, perfectly neat and clean, but not boiled out, in fine order for manufacturing.

2d. A sample of floss from pierced cocoons boiled, free from gum, and drawn out in roving form and wound in balls without twist, and about the size of oranges, which he is instructed is the form and condition for the article to be marketed.

3d. Very fine specimens of cocoons in point of size and firmness, from the Orange, Sulphur, and Peanut varieties.

4th. A sample of reeled silk, a worthy article for lustre, evenness and strength, wrought on the Piedmontese and Dennis' silk reels.

5th. A *Multicaulis* tree of the present year's growth, (and not far from the average growth of his lot,) nearly nine feet high, with leaves accompanying it, (although plucked from it,) measuring thirteen by fourteen inches.

6th. One bent of his Cabinet Feeding and Winding Frame, full size.

This Frame, in the opinion of the committee, possesses advantages which should recommend it to the attention and consideration of silk growers. It is a neat and compact structure, occupying little room, requiring less labor in tending, and rendering greater facilities for winding, than most articles of this kind in use.

By Mrs. DARIUS CARTER, of East Bloomfield, Ontario co.

1st. A sample of fair cocoons of the Peanut variety.

2d. A large sample of sewing silk, pretty well manufactured, and very successfully dyed, exhibiting (as she informed us) seventy different shades of color.

3d. A very handsome piece or specimen of Black Fringe.

4th. One pair of ladies stockings, black, and a pair of mitts.

5th. One elegant reticule, 1 purse, 2 pair mitts, all of net work, manufactured from yarn prepared from floss.

6th. One piece of cloth, 1 apron, 2 handkerchiefs, together with yarn enough already colored to make 20 yards of cloth, all of which articles and yarn prepared from floss, the whole of which is the work of her own hands; she informed the committee that her cocoons measured one hundred bushels; the manufacturing, all performed with household implements only. Enterprise, industry, and success like this should not pass the committee nor the Society, unheeded or unrewarded.

By the Agent of the State Prison, at Auburn:

A fine sample of sewing silk from convict's labor, which for uniformity and equality of filament, lustre of staple, brilliancy of colors and taste of putting up, would not discredit an Italian factory, and is to the State of New-York, an encouraging earnest of what we may expect with the advantage of a few years' experience.

The committee recommend that a premium of \$20 be awarded to Mrs. CARTER, and one of \$10, to Mrs. SHOVE, for their specimens of silk, above enumerated.

—[Report of Com.]

SAMPLES OF GRAIN.

To Rawson Harmon, Jr., Wheatland, for samples of 21 different varieties of wheat, exhibited in the berry, and in the head on the stalk, a premium of \$10.

To M. B. Bateham, Rochester, for 12 varieties of imported wheat, a premium of \$5.

To Seth Starr, of Sullivan, for the best specimen of Spring Wheat, \$5.

To John Townsend, of Albany, and to Wm. Ingell of Volney, for two best specimens of Indian corn, \$3 each.

ROOTS.

The Committee on Roots notice with commendation, samples of Potatoes from J. F. Osborn, Port Byron; Wm. P. Buel, Albany, and Wm. Ingells, Volney.

Samples of White Carrots, from C. N. Bement, Three Hills Farm, and Wm. P. Buel, Albany—Yellow do. from John Bainbridge.

Samples of Mangel Wurtzel, from J. F. Osborn, and Red Beets, from Rufus Cosset.

Also, a very fine sample of Onions, owner's name not known.

FRUITS AND FLOWERS.

Premiums of Books on Horticulture were awarded

To David Thomas, Aurora, for a lot of about forty varieties of Apples, Pears, Peaches, Plums and Grapes, some of them of new and valuable varieties, presented by J. J. Thomas, nurseryman, of Macedon.

To Dr. Beumont, Lyons, for several baskets of very fine and excellent grapes, including the Grey Tokay, Golden Chasselas, and Sweet Water, the quality of which the Society had an opportunity of testing at the dinner table, "in committee of the whole."

To Samuel Hecox, Lyons, for a lot of sixteen varieties of foreign and domestic grapes, very fine and well ripened, of which Mr. H. raised above fifty bushels the present season.

To James Wilson, nurseryman, Albany, for a beautiful bouquet, and a large lot of Dahlias of splendid varieties.

To Wm. P. Buel, Albany, for a miniature parterre of Dahlias of very perfect and well chosen varieties of great beauty, and twenty-one kinds of well selected varieties of Apples of fine growth.

To Ezra Cornell, Ithaca, for a basket of fine Red Cheek Malcation Peaches, some of them measuring more than seven inches in circumference.

To James Cochran, Oswego, for a basket of foreign varieties of Grapes, among which were the Chasselas, Sweet Water, Frontignac and Pinon Noire, a hardy variety with a vinous and pleasant fruit—also a basket of Silver Cling stone Peaches.

To Mr. Witte of Oswego county, for a basket of fine Apples of known varieties.

To J. F. Osborn, Port Byron, for twenty-nine varieties of cultivated Apples of well selected sorts, together with three varieties of Pears.

To Mr. Cossett, Onondaga, for a basket of fine Grapes, including the Isabella, Alexander, Munier and Sweet Water well ripened and large growth.

Mr. Huntington of Onondaga, presented a large basket of Apples of beautiful form and fine flavor.

M. B. Bateham, proprietor of the Rochester Seed Store, presented two Seven Year Pumpkins, raised by H. N. Langworthy, of Irondequoit, in 1837 and 1840.

John Richards presented the vine and products of one seed of the Citron Watermelon, amounting to eighteen in number, and weighing over 300 lbs.

(3) Those to whom Prizes were awarded, and who have not received them, can obtain them by application to E. P. PRENTICE, Esq. Treasurer, or to L. TUCKER, Secretary, Albany.

DEAR SIR—I hear complaints against Western gentlemen, for their not exhibiting any of the fine stock that they are known to possess. I believe there is justice in their being censured. I do not consider their reasons for not presenting their stock at all satisfactory. But that no part of the censure should rest on our county, I would inform you that I endeavored to have a specimen of the animals of Tompkins county at the Fair. They were prevented being there in season to be examined, by an accidental delay on the canal, caused by the grounding of the boat. In the lot was a Short Horned Durham Bull, a Leicester Buck, a South Down Buck, and a Berkshire sow. The sow was looked at by the swine committee, and would have drawn a premium had I not been one of the committee myself. I insisted that a premium should not be given to my sow. The other animals were not seen by the committees at all. I exhibited ten of the most approved varieties of seed corn, viz: Dutton, Brown Corn, King Philip, Improved China, Toronto, New-Jersey White, Red Blazed, White, and other varieties that we have no names for, none of which were noticed by the committee, as I was not on hand to call their attention to the subject. Yours respectfully, E. CORNELL.

Vote of Thanks.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the New-York State Agricultural Society, held at Syracuse on the 1st October, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board be presented to JAMES G. KING, Esq. of New-York, for the very valuable present made by him to the Society, consisting of nine head of Neapolitan Swine, imported and bred by Mr. King.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board be tendered to the citizens of Syracuse, generally, for the liberality manifested by them in contributing to the funds of the Society, and to the Committee of Arrangements for the ample accommodation made for the fair, in the erection of pens, &c. without expense to the Society.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board be tendered to Mr. CORNING, the president of the Utica and Schenectady Rail-Road Company, and to Mr. WILKINSON, the President of the Syracuse and Utica Rail-Road Company, for their liberality in directing the train of cars, with stock from Albany, to be taken over their roads free of expense.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board be presented to Mr. COSTIGAN, Superintendent of the Mohawk and Hudson Rail-Road Company, and to Mr. LIVINGSTON their agent in Albany, for their praiseworthy efforts to aid the Committee in making the necessary arrangements for the transportation of stock, &c. by rail-road to Syracuse—and also to Mr. YOUNG, Superintendent of the Utica and Schenectady Rail-Road, and to Mr. LEE, Superintendent of the Syracuse and Utica Rail-Road, for the efficient aid they rendered the Society by the prompt manner in which their train of cars was taken over those roads.

Brewer's Grains as a Manure.

A writer (Mr. Buckland,) in the Mark Lane Express, says that in consequence of witnessing the effect of a small quantity of brewer's grains scattered on grass land, "he was induced to manure several meadows with grains mixed with stable dung, and a few acres with grains only. The crop of hay is an extraordinary one off the land manured with grains and stable dung together; but from the lands manured with grains alone, the crop is prodigious." On part of a steep declivity a good sprinkling of grains was given, which had the effect of raising the crop from 12 cwt. per acre, the usual rate, (and which the ungrained this year yielded) to two tons of hay, and the grass of the finest quality. Being of the opinion that all plants are best manured by their own species in a state of decay, Mr. B. expects that for the barley crop, grains will be excellent, and has made some experiments with a view to settle the point. As a manure for meadow land, he pronounces grains to be a "very economical and efficient manure."

John W. Jenkins of Claverick, had a bull on the ground, a cross of Alderney and Durham, which was a good animal, and attracted a good deal of attention from the circumstance of his appearing on the ground in harness and attached to a single wagon; he was perfectly docile, and was guided by reins as easily as a horse; he has carted out all the manure of the farm this year, and that is not a little. After dining at the Hudson House, (on cold water principles,) the Society adjourned to the City Hall, where, after an address by Dr. BECKMAN, the first Vice-President, the premiums were awarded, and the festivities of the day were concluded, and the Society separated, highly gratified with the first Fair under the new organization, and fully resolved that the next one should be still better than this.

Before I conclude, allow me to mention the wonderful efficacy of cream of tartar in preventing excessive sweating in horses. Riding in the mail one day last summer, when the air was very warm and sultry, I remarked to the driver that his horses, although they had traveled about twelve miles, were quite dry; he told me that on starting he had dissolved one table spoonful of cream of tartar in a pail full of water, and allowed each horse, half a pail full. After traveling five miles farther they began to perspire a little; when he gave them another spoonful, the perspiration soon dried up, and although the horses that passed us on the road were in a dripping sweat, ours showed no signs of perspiration at the end of the journey. This being entirely new to me, I thought the information might be useful to some of your readers. Respectfully yours, N. N. D. Stockport, 10th mo. 14th, 1841.

Tompkins Co. Ag. Fair.

MESSRS. EDITORS—In conformity with your request made at the "glorious meeting" at Syracuse, I proceed to give you an imperfect and hasty account of the doings of the Tompkins County Agricultural Society, at its Fair, in Ithaca, on the 8th and 9th inst. It was a rouser! yes, gentlemen, that's the word, it was a rouser in every sense of the term. The "active few" had endeavored to arouse the great majority of the agriculturists to the importance of this association: they had expended their eloquence in the highways and byways; and very many has the humble individual who now addresses you almost persuaded to enrol their names as brothers in the good cause; but the one thing was not at hand to clinch the bargain—the show. They were disposed to act only on the *quid pro quo* principle—they wanted to see first what we could do. This was the ground on which hundreds of our most thrifty farmers rested,—and hence you can readily perceive how much depended on this exhibition, and all else connected with it, in order to increase the numbers of the association, and the promotion of the great objects for which it was formed. Well, the day came, "big with our fate," not "heavily in clouds," however, but sunny, and a temperature delightful, which continued till the end of the second day. At about 9 A. M., the harly sons of the soil, with their stalwart sons and bright-eyed daughters, were seen winding their way down the picturesque hills which gird the beautiful village of Ithaca. They came not singly, nor often in pairs, but by companies and battalions; and by 11 o'clock, the place and grounds for the indoor exhibition and stock, were thronged by thousands. Of this mighty gathering the far greater proportion "came there to see," and to know finally whether they could hereafter afford to give their 50 cents for the night. And did we disappoint them? No, gentlemen, we nobly triumphed; the war came up to the manifesto, and great is the cause for rejoicing, for you have little idea of the difficulties we have encountered in obtaining a sufficient sum from membership to pay our premiums. Scores came to me in the course of the two days, and assured me of their great satisfaction; that their half dollar was ready for another year; all doubts having been removed of the utility of the society.

The exhibition of stock was large, with good specimens of each kind, especially swine and sheep; of the former particularly, those to which premiums were awarded would have proved ugly customers to Mr. Bement, at Syracuse, had they been there; but it is but justice to say, that they originated from this distinguished breeder's stock. A very perfect animal was on the ground from Mr. A. B. Allen's piggery, 5 months old, which it was the opinion of many would be hard to beat at the next fair. A fatted barrow was exhibited, 16 months old, merely to prove the fallacy of the notion which generally prevails, that Berkshires cannot be made to weigh against a land-pike. The weight of this was nearly 600 pounds. He was literally a "whole hog." I understood he was from Mr. Lossing's stock. The almost beardless Neapolitans, presented to Mr. E. Cornell, of Ithaca, by the State Society, were exhibited and attracted much and favorable notice. But two full blood Durham bulls were on the ground, although I learned that two others were owned in the county, and their non-appearance created much regret, as report spoke highly of them. I shall not discourse further on the cattle, as we had a "chief among us takin' notes," and will no doubt in due time "prent them." There were some capital South Downs, which originated from the superlative flock of Mr. Rotch, of Otsego, as well as Leicesters; and methinks, a couple, at least, of Saxons, which, if they had been at Syracuse, would have spiked the artillery of the "fine wool committee," as well as allayed some of the grumbling of the multitude.

With regard to horses, although there were several good stallions, yet the geldings, matched spans, &c., were but little above mediocrity. The able chairman of the horse committee told me there was not one good horse now, where there were formerly ten. This is unfortunately too true; and will continue to be so, until the same enthusiasm, energy, and skill is manifested in their improvement, which now characterizes the breeders of the Durham and Berkshire. This period will and must soon arrive; and let us one and all speed the time, for the great majority of horses which now overspread the land, "fright the country from her propriety." One word here in regard to the plan we adopted, connected with the exhibition of every animal, or product. When an animal, for instance, was presented to the marshal, the owner's name, with the animal, were registered, and a number attached; the number only, was then transcribed upon a paste board ticket, which was tacked to the pen where the animal was consigned. This blinfolded the viewing committees as to ownership, and served as a guard against suspicion of partiality. This word partiality is the name of the rock on which many agricultural societies will split, unless every means are adopted to avoid it. The "green-eyed monster," suspicion of favor, must not be permitted to exist for a moment. But there is another beguiling cause—the selecting of viewing committees in the same county where the society exists. On this occasion our stock viewing committees were chosen from the adjoining counties; they left their prejudices and partialities behind them; and this, together with their known ability, inspired confidence, and I need not say that their decisions gave undivided satisfaction.

But enough, allons to the indoor exhibition, which was held in the spacious assembly room of the Ithaca Hotel. The exhibition consisted of articles from the shop of the mechanic, "household productions," vegetables, and fruits—all of which were neatly arranged. Had you been present, Messrs. Editors, to have remarked the skill displayed by our ingenious mechanics in almost everything, from the silver spoon and butter knife, to the smooth hammered and well turned horse shoe, you would have said, "we will put the Yankees against the world in all that appertains to art and skill in manufactures." Why, sirs, on that occasion we could have served you with a saddle and a harness of which Victoria herself would be proud; carpets and other furniture, which the greatest aristocrat in the land would not sneer at; hats and caps which would lend additional grace and comeliness to the brow of Prince Albert; kerchiefs and collars for a dutchess, and embroidered baskets for her table; flannels soft as down; traveling trunks with a toilet apparatus; and fruits, the very sight of which a Shenstone would have envied! together with hundreds of other articles which redounded equally to the taste and enterprise of our mechanics, as well as the wives and daughters of our industrious farmers.

I pass to the second day, which, to me and very many others, was as interesting as the first. At 9 A. M. the plowing match and trial of plows came off. Seven teams were entered, and several plows tested as to their relative merits. For level plowing, the Livingston County Patent took the prize; and for side-hill plowing, the premium was given to the same which received the first premium at the State Fair, invented by Messrs. Mooers & Slater, of Ithaca. At 1 P. M. a procession was formed, and accompanied with a band of music, marched to the Presbyterian church, the place appointed for hearing the address and the reports of the viewing committees. The address was delivered by the worthy and indefatigable Corresponding Secretary of the State Society, Col. HENRY S. RANDALL, of Cortlandville; and to the readers of the Cultivator any encomiums upon this address will be deemed almost superfluous. It was eloquent, argumentative, practical, caustic, and occasionally humorous; indeed, it was just what an agricultural address should be, and a model for State occasions. Of the many subjects which the talented gentleman treated with ability, want of space will prevent me from advertizing to more than one, namely, that "sheet anchor" of the farmer, manure. After dwelling on its importance at considerable length, he proposed that he who spread on his farm only 50 loads of manure, should be called plain John Doe; if he doubled that quantity, Mr. John Doe; that 200 loads should confer the title of Squire Doe; and 400 that of Honorable John Doe! In spite of the soundness of the plan, this drew down thunders of applause, which signified something more, I sincerely hope, than mere compliment to the speaker, viz: a determination to secure the title Honorable, standing as it would on so profitable a foundation. Yes, this would not be the empty bubble which deludes the world, but that truly enviable distinction, gained by furnishing the means which would cause four blades to grow where grew only one before. Suffice it in conclusion to say, that a resolution was promptly and enthusiastically passed, tendering the thanks of the Society to Col. Randall, and the appointment of a committee to solicit a copy of his address for publication; and then, Messrs. Editors, you and the public will judge that I have not, with the hundreds who heard it, overpraised.

The reports of the viewing committees were then read, and after some further business was transacted, the society returned in order to the hotel, where a splendid dinner awaited them; after which the members expressed to each other their great gratification at

the result of the present Fair, and pledging their efforts to go beyond it at the next. Much praise is due to Mr. E. Cornell, the marshal of the day, for the order and good appointment of everything connected with the stock exhibition; and to Mr. Julius Ackly, the distinguished horticulturist of Ithaca, for the tasteful arrangement of the indoor Fair. Your friend, L. A. M. Lansing, Tompkins Co. N. Y.

Lee Town Society Fair.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I propose in this communication to say a few words in relation to the Lee Agricultural Association, and to offer some suggestions relative to the organization of similar associations in other places. Much as I am in favor of State and County Societies for agricultural improvement, I am fully convinced that it is to town associations, that we are yet to look for that encouragement to the great mass of farmers, which is needed in order to effect that general and permanent improvement which every friend of agriculture so much desires. A few reflecting farmers in this town (Lee, Oneida Co.) convinced that much good might result from associated effort, organized the Lee Agricultural Association, and the result has far exceeded the expectation of any of its friends.

Meetings have been held monthly ever since the organization of the society in December last, at which addresses have been delivered by members of the society, or reports from committees on different branches of farming, read; giving great interest to the meetings and an impulse to agricultural improvement, such as has never before been witnessed in this vicinity. The society yesterday held a Fair and Cattle Show, which has perhaps contributed more than all other causes, to awaken a spirit of improvement among our farmers, which is destined to accomplish more in three years, than has been accomplished in the last ten years. The exhibition of stock was far greater than was expected, the different kinds occupying about forty pens, and exhibiting in a striking manner the difference between careful breeding with good feeding, and the careless inattentive manner in which much of the stock in this country has been raised. The show of Berkshire pigs was very fair, exhibiting much care and attention in breeding, and showing a wonderful contrast between the Berkshires and the common hogs in this vicinity.

Premiums were awarded to the amount of between \$50 and \$60, the society appealing rather to the public spirit of farmers than to selfish purposes. Proud as we are of yesterday's exhibition, we regard it as but the commencement of a system of improvement, which is to place the town of Lee in the front rank in everything relating to the welfare of the agricultural community.

I want to make one suggestion to farmers everywhere. It is this: that they meet in their respective towns, and organize town agricultural associations. Of their utility no one who has witnessed their effects can doubt. They are within the reach of every farmer, and the subject is thus brought home to those who would never be reached by county or state societies, and an impetus may be given to the cause, which will be felt as long as agriculture is the great business of the citizens of this country. Respectfully yours,

ELON COMSTOCK.

Stokes, October 14, 1841.

Erie County Fair.

The Buffalo Republican furnishes us the following notice of the Erie Co. Cattle Show:

We yesterday attended the meeting of our County Society, and were gratified at the exhibition of the neat cattle, of the swine, and of the vegetables. The horses were few however; and we did not see as many household manufactures as we expected. We observed one trunk, and one box full of the cocoons of the silk worm, that were very beautiful. Mr. Allen produced a tremendous boar, and there was one other, only one year and twelve days old, that was very large. Two very remarkably fine Durham bulls were also on the ground, with a fine show of cows, calves, &c. Among the manufactures, there was an excellent lock, of Mr. Davock's, the lard lamp, and many other things that we cannot enumerate. Squashes of all lengths and weights, pumpkins, cucumbers, &c., and last not least, Mr. Grider, a mammoth specimen of the genus homo. The exhibition was a good one, and we believe that a spirit is aroused, that will make it still better next year.

Monroe County Fair.

We are indebted to the Rochester Daily Advertiser, for a notice of the Cattle Show of this county, which was held in that city on the 15th and 16th Oct.:

"There were a large number of persons at Franklin Square to witness the exhibition of stock from various sections of the county—probably not less, at any time, from 11 in the forenoon to 3 in the afternoon, than five thousand. The exhibition was quite rich, exceeding in some points, particularly in working oxen, the State Cattle Show at Syracuse. The show of cattle indeed was quite full and rich, as was also that of swine—the prevailing variety being Berkshire. There were a goodly number of sheep, Merinoes, South Downs, &c. The Merino stock being the more prevalent. The turn out of horses was not large, though there were several passable stallions, several excellent mares and foals—one particularly fine, for her age, having much the form and build of the English Dry Horse. There were several quite fine hackneys, but the main excellence of the show was in the cattle, sheep and swine line. About half past one, we passed round the Square for the purpose of noting the number of animals on the ground, and, as near as we could count, there were of Bulls 22; Cows 19; Calves 12; Oxen and Steers 72; Horses and Colts 40; Sheep 96; Swine, young and old, 66. On the whole, the cattle show was a spirited affair, terminated by a plowing match, the result of which we may notice hereafter. From the spirit evinced by the farmers of Monroe—the samples of production presented on this, as on former occasions, it may safely be asserted that agriculturists are forsaking the beaten track of their fathers—reducing their business to a system, and

acting on the conviction that, to excel in any thing, they must adopt the improvements which scientific research has proved the most feasible for the attainment of that object."

Ontario County Fair.

THE Ontario Repository says that an immense crowd of people attended the Fair and Cattle Show in Canandaigua, and that "the exhibition of fabrics, products, cattle, horses, &c. was by far the most satisfactory, both in regard to numbers and quality, that has ever taken place in this county." The number of competitors for premiums was unusually large, far exceeding the most sanguine expectations of its friends. The annual address was delivered by GEO. WILSON, Esq. and is said to have been an effort highly creditable to its author.

Jefferson County Show and Fair.

THE Agricultural Show and Fair of Jefferson county, was held at Watertown on the 16th of September, and the proceedings reflect great honor on the farmers of that section of New-York. The number of farmers and others interested in the cause of agriculture that attended was very great, and notwithstanding the short time which the several committees had for the performance of their respective duties, (owing to the recent re-organization of the society,) a numerous list of animals, &c. were presented for exhibition and for premiums. The show of domestic manufactured articles was good, and reflected credit on the thrifty farmers of the county. The exhibition of animals, both of the improved and domestic breeds, was most satisfactory, and constituted the great point of attraction in the Fair. An able and admirable address was delivered by the President, O. HUNGERFORD, Esq. It abounded with plain, practical remarks, and was listened to with interest by a crowded auditory. A very handsome list of premiums was distributed, and the result cannot fail to be most advantageous to the agricultural cause in that prosperous county. The agricultural census shows that the farmers of Jefferson have reason to be proud of the aggregate amount of their varied and successful industry.

Onondaga Cattle Show and Fair.

THE proceedings of this society are so closely interwoven with those of the State Society, being held at the same time and place, and the details of which are to be found so much at length in the present number of the Cultivator, we are obliged to pass it with a less distinct notice than we should otherwise have done. About ninety premiums on cattle, implements, &c. were awarded, and a decided impulse given to the cause of improved agriculture.

Cayuga County Agricultural Society.

THE Show and Fair of this Society took place at Auburn on the 13th and 14th of October, and went off in the most satisfactory manner. We are gratified to learn that the Society is in a most flourishing condition, and indeed it would be a libel on the good citizens of that county to suppose that any other than success could be its result. Premiums to a large amount were awarded; the appearance of the animals was very fine; the collection of implements and domestic manufactures worthy of the occasion, and the display of fruits, vegetables, &c. greater than at any former meeting in Cayuga. The address was delivered by HENRY HOWLAND, and we have read it with much interest. It contains many facts and suggestions worthy of the consideration of every farmer. The first premium on corn was awarded to Joseph F. Osborn, the yield per acre being 144 bushels 14 lbs.; and the second was awarded to Joseph Sherwood, the crop being 121 bushels 15 lbs. to the acre. As was to be expected, the quality of the corn in both cases was very superior. Several specimens of silk of beautiful appearance were exhibited, and it is already evident that the bounty granted by the state will be claimed to a considerable extent.

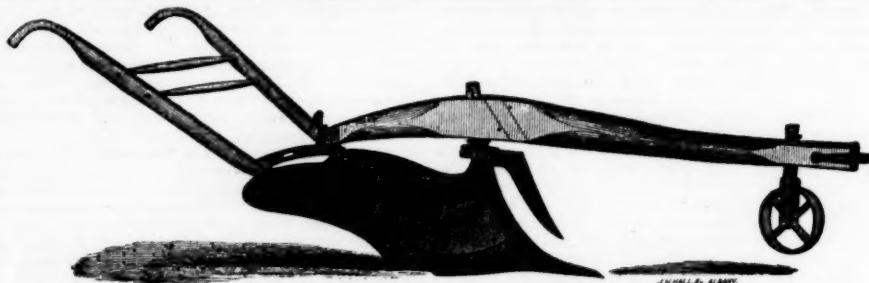
Columbia Floral and Horticultural Society.

WHILE Cattle Shows and Agricultural Fairs are the order of the day, and are producing such happy effects on the farming community, we are glad to notice that the scarcely less important department of husbandry, Horticulture, is also receiving the attention it deserves. The Floral and Horticultural Society of Columbia held their annual meeting at Hudson recently, and the meeting was numerously attended. A great variety of fruits and vegetables, flowers, &c. were presented, premiums were awarded, and the whole proceedings were such as to afford abundant proof of the benefit of such associations.

Notices of Fairs in several other counties, will be given in our next.

More Berkshires for the Southwest.

WE have learned with much pleasure that our enterprising and public spirited friends, Messrs. J. H. Cunningham & Co., of Springfield, Ky., have made a large purchase of A. B. ALLEN, Buffalo, N. Y., of this invaluable breed of swine, for the purpose of supplying to some extent, the constantly increasing demand for this favorite stock, in the fertile valley of the Mississippi. We do not doubt that the purchasers will find they have made a profitable investment, while at the same time they will be essentially contributing to the prosperity of their section of country.



Barnaby and Moores' Premium Side Hill Plow—[Fig. 63.]

THE above cut gives a very correct representation of "Barnaby & Moores' (of Ithaca, N. Y.) patent Side hill and Level land Plow," to which was awarded an extra premium of \$30, by the New-York State Agricultural Society at their late Fair at Syracuse. It received also last year, the first premium of the American Institute, and the gold medal offered by the same institution this year for the best plow. As a side hill plow it is

undoubtedly superior to any thing of the kind, while it is found to work admirably on level lands, turning the furrows all one way, or in the common way of laying out the ground into lands, or by placing the beam in the center, it will throw furrows both ways, serving for ditching or ridging at the option of the farmer. One of these plows may be seen at the office of the Cultivator.

Correspondence, Inquiries, &c.

Compost from Marsh Mud and Sod.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Having much salt marsh adjoining my farm, I am desirous of getting some information respecting the best mode of rendering the sod available as manure, since I find it very difficult to rot or decompose. I hauled 20 or 30 loads into a heap and stacked them, and it was two years before I could get any of it for use, and then only about half the mass was fit for application to the soil. This was applied to Indian corn, with very satisfactory results, the corn being larger than on the same piece where the best hopen manure was used.

Little Compton, R. I.

J. C.

In order to promote the rapid decomposition of turf, peat, swamp muck, marsh sod, &c., the mixture of sufficient animal matter to promote fermentation with the mass of vegetable matter, seems necessary. Peat is almost inert on soils until it has been fermented, or its acid properties neutralized by the addition of lime or ashes. When so fermented or prepared it is very valuable. Marsh mud or sod is still better than peat for making compost, as in addition to the vegetable part, it contains more or less animal matter, one of the most efficient agents in fertilization. Dr. Jackson, in his Geological Survey of Rhode Island, in his chapter on manures, has some remarks on composts from which we make the following extract relating to the inquiry of our correspondent:

"I should most strenuously advise the employment of fish with peat and swamp muck [or marsh matters] where they can be obtained: one barrel of fish being a sufficient quantity of animal matter, to convert a large wagon load of peat into a valuable manure. Let the peat be spread on some convenient place on the farm, and then fish be mixed with it in layers, lime being spread over it to hasten the decomposition. The whole heap will undergo the putrefactive fermentation, and ammoniacal gas and salts will be abundantly produced, and will impregnate every portion of the peat or swamp muck, so as to render it a most powerful manure. No odor will be perceptible, if the heap is well covered, and the whole mass will be converted into a black pulp or powder, and may be used like other manures either in broadcast or in the hill. Every farmer ought to spread at least 20 loads of compost manure per acre on his tilled land every year, if he means to improve the soil so as to render it more and more fertile."

As the inquiry of our correspondent is of much importance to many farmers on the sea coast, where marsh mud, sea weed, and sod, abound, we hope some of our friends who have had practical experience in the formation of composts from these materials, will favor us with their processes and the results.

"Use of Toads."

WE make the following extract from the letter of a correspondent at Attakapas, (La.)

"A very wealthy neighbor of mine, has been suffering for many years from what he calls rheumatic pains, but which is more probably gout. All the watering places and the best physicians could afford him no relief. An old Indian prescribed for him the oil of toads, to be used by rubbing on the suffering part. From the use of this, he has never failed to obtain almost immediate relief, even in the severest paroxysms."

Transmutation.

MESSRS. GAYLORD & TUCKER—As I perceive that various opinions are entertained respecting the transmutation of wheat and other grains to chess, I wish to state a fact that came within my personal observation in 1819. I sowed a small piece of oats as the first crop on a farm entirely new. They were sown so late in the season, that the roots lived through the succeeding winter, which the next season produced a luxuriant growth of chess—nothing but pure chess! The fact that no seed of any description had before been sown on the farm, united with the fact, that the chess was seen to grow from the same identical roots, which the previous year had produced oats, and nothing but oats, was to my mind a satisfactory proof, that oats at least, will under similar circumstances produce chess. As to wheat and rye, I have no certain proof that they will thus degenerate, but will venture the opinion that either, if sown so early that the young heads will be destroyed by frost, or any other means, a crop of chess will be the result. The subject is susceptible of experimental proof. For instance, wheat or rye might be sown as early as the first of August, or so early that the young heads would make their appearance before winter. Previous to the setting in of winter, let the whole be mowed close to the ground, and the roots carefully protected through the winter, and the produce of the next season would probably settle the question. Will not some of your readers try the experiment? Hudson, Ohio, 1841.

T. HUDSON.

Why not try the experiment yourself, Mr. H.? since if you succeed you not only settle an important point in

vegetable physiology, but entitle yourself to the premiums which have been offered for indisputable proof of the transmutation of wheat into chess, amounting to some two hundred and fifty dollars, and which we presume will be forthcoming. We give Mr. Hudson's paper a place, not because we think it adds particular force to the many similar proofs of transmutation, but because we wish to give the advocates of that doctrine every chance of demonstrating by variety of experiment, the truth or fallacy of their system. Have any of our readers noticed the fact stated by H. of the oat-root surviving the winter? It is new to us, and may be of some practical importance.

Hoot Ail?

MESSRS. EDITORS—I thank you for your article in your last paper, in answer to my inquiry respecting the origin and remedy of foot rot in sheep. I have another to propose quite as interesting to farmers as the above. I raised the last spring some 18 calves, a part Durham, and well fed. Some weeks since one was taken lame and died in less than 24 hours; mortification succeeded, and on examination, the blood on the limb affected coagulating and extending into the body quite to the vitals; four have already died in quick succession of the same disease. Now if you will give us the causes and remedy, and if it will communicate to larger stock, and how, or if contagious at all, you will confer a lasting favor on the public.

Yours very respectfully,

JOS. H. MERRICK.

Franklin, Del. co., N. Y., Oct. 13, 1841.

Will some of our correspondents who have seen this disease, or are acquainted with a remedy for similar complaints, favor us with their opinion on its nature, cause and remedy? We believe in many cases where a complaint having a like fatal termination has prevailed, it has been considered as the foot ail and been treated as such. Will Mr. Merrick ascertain, if possible, whether ergot was to be found on the grasses where his calves fed? If June grass was plenty in the fields, it is probable such was the case, and a clue to the nature of the disease may be thus gained.

Imported Stock.

CATTLE.—The ship Birmingham from Liverpool, at New-York on the 23d Sept., brought out six head of Improved Short Horn Durhams, four of which were for E. P. PRENTICE, Esq. of this city, and have been added to his already extensive herd at Mount Hope Farm, on the west bank of the Hudson, about a mile below Albany. Who the other two animals were for, we have not learned. Those for Mr. Prentice consist of four in-calf cows and heifers, viz:

"Moss Rose," roan, four years old.

"Violante," red and white, three years old.

"Easterville," roan, two years old.

"Catherine," spotted, two years old.

These beautiful animals were sent out by J. Whitaker, Esq. of Burley-Otley, to whom Mr. P. sent an order, unlimited as to price, for the four best cows which could be procured, and those who have seen them think they do credit to Mr. Whitaker's taste and judgment, though they have suffered, two of them severely, from a long and boisterous sea voyage. Mr. Prentice deserves great credit for the public spirit and liberality he has manifested, not only in the importation of these animals, which have cost him \$2,000, but also for his previous importations of Improved Short Horns and South Down and Leicester Sheep, so many of which, with their progeny, grace the lawns and pastures of Mount Hope. The lovers of fine stock, in passing through town, should not fail to visit Mr. Prentice's farm, where they will find a herd of improved cattle and sheep, not excelled in beauty and numbers, probably in the Northern States.

We learn also that our friend Judge VAN BERGEN of Coxsackie, Greene co., one of the best farmers on the Hudson, received, by the last London packet ship, an Improved Short Horn Durham Cow, celebrated for her milking properties.

SOUTH DOWN SHEEP.—Our readers will be gratified to learn that our esteemed friend and correspondent A. B. ALLEN, Esq. of Buffalo, came home in the London packet ship Hendrick Hudson, Capt. Morgan, which arrived at New-York, Oct. 17, from a three month's agricultural tour through the different coun-

ties of England. For a notice of his visit, the results of his investigations, and a description of the stock he has purchased, the reader is referred to his communication on another page. We may mention here, however, that he brought with him in the Hendrick Hudson, one South Down buck and three ewes for Mr. ROTCH of Butternuts, a buck and two ewes for Mr. STEVENSON, United States minister to England, and a buck and two ewes, all of the same breed, for Bishop MEADE of Virginia. These sheep are from the celebrated flock of Mr. Jonas Webb of Babraham, who took all the prizes for South Down bucks, awarded by the Royal Agricultural Society at its last meeting in Liverpool, amounting to 90 sovereigns, (\$436.)

SWINE.—In addition to the extensive lot of Berkshires heretofore sent home by Mr. Allen, amounting to over forty, Mr. A. brought with him several of the Kennilworth and Yorkshire breeds, which grow to the weight of 1000 to 1600 pounds, for a description of which the reader is referred to Mr. A.'s letter.

Premium Animals and Implements.

THE portraits of Mr. Prentice's bull and cow, which received premiums at Syracuse, have heretofore been published in the *Cultivator*—the former at page 133, current vol. and the latter as a heifer at page 173 of vol. 7. Portraits of Messrs. Corning & Sotham's cow Matchless, and of one of their Cotswold Bucks, were also published in the last volume of the *Cultivator*. We publish in this paper, handsomely executed cuts of one of the premium Plows and one of the Drills, and it is our intention hereafter to give views of those prize animals and implements, both at the State Fair and at the American Institute, of which correct drawings can be procured.

Sugar from Indian Corn.

WHEN Col. Taylor of Virginia, pronounced Indian corn to be "meat, meal, and manure," he should have added, as he might in strict truth, it was also oil and sugar. We have ourselves seen barrels of the purest oil, for lamps or other uses that was made from corn, and every one has been aware that molasses was another of its products. A short time since we laid before the public an inquiry from the Hon. H. L. Ellsworth of Washington, as to the mode of making molasses from corn, and we have the pleasure of furnishing from a letter read at a meeting of the New-Castle (Delaware) Agricultural Society, from William Webb, Esq. of Wilmington, the process which has been adopted by him, and which has been eminently successful, as the beautiful samples of sugar as well as molasses exhibited, clearly demonstrated. Mr. Webb says:

"The manner of raising the corn and making the sugar, is as follows:—the corn is planted in rows 2 1/2 feet apart, and the stalks are left to stand in the row 3 inches one from another; it is then cultivated in the usual manner. Some time in August, or as soon as the stalk shows a disposition to form grain, the ears must be taken off; this operation must be carefully attended to, as upon it entirely depends success. After this, there is nothing more to do until the crop is ready to be taken up, which will generally happen in September; the stalks are then cut up at the root, stripped of their leaves, and taken to the mill where the juice is pressed out between iron rollers, in the way usually employed with the sugar cane. Lime water, about the consistency of thin cream, is then added with the juice, one spoonful to the gallon; it is left to settle one hour, and then poured into boilers, which are covered until the liquid approaches the boiling point, when the scum must be taken off. It is then boiled down as rapidly as possible, taking off the scum as it rises. As the juice approaches the state of syrup, it is necessary to slacken the fire to avoid burning. The boiling is generally completed, when six quarts are reduced to one; it is then poured into coolers or moulds and set aside to crystallize. When this process is gone through, the sugar is to be separated from the molasses, and the operation is finished. The process here detailed, gives the quality of sugar you see in the samples. If required, it can be afterwards refined as other sugar. The use of animal charcoal, and the employment of steam in the process of evaporation, as is common in the manufacture of beet sugar, would, I am confident, produce white sugar at one operation. From what is known on the subject, I fully believe that an acre of good ground treated as above described, will yield at least 1,000 lbs. of sugar—probably more. The value of the fodder taken from the stalks, and of the stalks themselves, after passing through the mill, will be more than an equivalent for the whole expense of cultivation and keeping the ground up. The fodder produced in this way is much superior to that usually made, from its containing a greater quantity of saccharine matter."

We consider the experiments made by Mr. Webb as most important, and doubt not the country will find cause for gratification at the success of his efforts to produce sugar from corn. The process is remarkably simple, the fixtures cannot be expensive, and the difficulties which have hitherto attended and prevented the making of sugar from the beet in this country, do not appear in the case of corn to exist. The foreign substances in beet juice render its conversion to sugar an intricate and delicate process; while there seems to be no more obstacles in the way of making sugar from the corn than from the juice of the sugar cane or the maple. From some cause, the analysis of beets in this country, has not shown the quantity of sugar or saccharine matter that the French or German beets produce; while from the fact that if there is one plant more strictly American than another, Indian corn is that one, we may expect that it will be produced in greater perfection here than in any other part of the world. The value of the fodder produced will not be lost sight of in any estimate of the profits which are to result from the cultivation of corn for the manufacture of sugar.

The exhibition of the New-Castle Society, where the letter from which our extracts are made was read, went off with the most gratifying success. There was a fine show of Durham, Devon and Ayrshire cattle, fine

improved sheep and pigs, "with numerous agricultural implements, from the all important plow and complete seeding machine down to the simplest hoe." Several distinguished farmers from other states were present, among whom were Mr. Robinson of Indiana, and Mr. Bement of New-York. There can be no question that such exhibitions are attracting much more notice than formerly, and their beneficial effects on the public will be proportionably extended.

Facts Relating to India.

A friend of ours in the South, has furnished us with a mass of facts derived from various authentic sources, relating to the rapid development of the resources of British India, its commerce, and the necessary bearing which they must have on the trade and agriculture of the United States, particularly the southern portion of it. That in time a vast agricultural and commercial power will exist in India, appears to us very certain. A race of men is growing up there, the result of a connection between the English military and civil servants of the East India Company service, and the natives, possessing in a great degree the talent and energy of the former, and the adaptation to the climate of the latter; and this race will eventually sway the destiny of that immense region. At the present moment England is endeavoring by every means in her power to promote the agricultural interests of that country, as it is there only in all her colonial possessions, she can hope to find the raw material she now receives from the United States, or the market for her manufactured products our country now furnishes. Every step therefore, she takes in India is interesting to us, for as a matter of course and of perfect right, England will prefer the products of her own territories and colonies to those of another and foreign nation. That England would gladly dispense with our cotton and our rice, our tobacco and our flour, could her population at home, her cotton spinners at Manchester, and iron manufacturers at Birmingham, draw their supplies of these articles from her own territory, or her colonies, there can be no question; and it will become the American farmer and planter, as well as statesman, to closely watch the progress she is making to the accomplishment of her designs. In some of them she may fail at first, but where the disposition and ability are both present, partial failures will only lead to a surer success in the end. The India government may not realize all they expected at once from their effort to introduce American varieties of cotton, and our modes of production and fitting for market, yet a great step has been gained; our cottons are there, our machines are there, and our citizens are teaching our methods of production and preparation; and it would be strange indeed, if in a country so admirably adapted to cotton as India, and where it has been cultivated from time immemorial, the power and influence of Britain should not give a new impulse, when exerted in earnest. In making our selections and condensations from the facts furnished by our correspondent, we shall begin with rice.

It is well known that rice is a most important article of food, not only in the East Indies, where a mixture of boiled rice and melted butter called Ghee, is the principal food of the natives, but also in the West India Islands, where the supply has hitherto been mostly derived from the United States. Since the extensive cultivation of rice for export has been commenced in India, large quantities are delivered in the British West Indies from Calcutta. In 1834, Calcutta exported to Mauritius and Bourbon, 151,923,696 lbs. worth \$4,557,710, or double the amount we annually export. In 1836, 66,000 bags of cleaned rice were imported into Liverpool from the East Indies, and only 450 casks of Carolina. In 1839, 97,000 of East India rice, and none of Carolina. In 1840, a considerable quantity of uncleaned Carolina rice, (paddy) was entered at Liverpool, and there was a corresponding falling off in the East India importation. There can be no question that India is abundantly able to compete with the United States in producing rice as well as cotton. The valleys of the Ganges, Irrawaddy, and the other numerous rivers of India have been from time immemorial the great rice fields of India, and the quantity that might be produced is immense. Dr. Roxburg states "that he never knew or heard of an Indian farmer manuring in the smallest degree a rice field; yet these fields have probably for thousands of years, continued to yield annually a large crop of rice, on an average of thirty to sixty fold; even eighty to a hundred have been known." The production of rice, is, at this time, rapidly increasing, and the best American machines for cleaning are now in use on the Ganges.

The astonishing increase of the importation of East India articles of produce into Great Britain, and the necessary increase of production in that region, may be inferred from a few facts. In 1831, the importation of sugar was 60,000 cwts; in 1836, 152,163 cwts; in 1840, 600,000 cwts; and the present year it is expected to be over 1,800,000 cwts. Cotton has increased in the same rapid ratio. The importation of India cotton in 1839, was 47,233,959 lbs.; in 1840, 76,703,295 lbs.; or almost doubling in two years. Of Coffee, the importation into Britain from India in 1834, was 3,000,000 of lbs. and in 1840, 15,000,000. England exports at the present time to India about 25 millions worth of her manufactures annually; to the United States she sends nearly 50 millions. An able writer in the *Journal of Commerce*, who signs himself a "South Carolinian," gives

the following as the causes which have produced this result:

- "1st. From the consolidation of the British power in the conquered provinces, preventing the native chiefs from warring on each other; thus securing to the people peace—the first element of a nation's prosperity.
- "2d. The abolition of the trading charter of the East India company, and the modification of their political powers.
- "3d. The spread of education and Christianity.
- "4th. The reduction in England of the duties on East India produce; such as sugar, cotton, rice, &c.
- "5th. The stimulus given to the cultivation of the above articles by the high prices in England and on the continent; the introduction of steam power on the rivers of the east; the investment of large amounts by English merchants and agriculturists; and the increased facilities of intercourse between the East Indies and Europe.
- "6th. The exertions of the East India company to improve the quantity and quality of Indian cotton by introducing American gins and seeds, by granting premiums, and by establishing numerous agricultural societies in each of the presidencies.
- "7th. The establishment of the British India Society, which was instituted for the express purpose of inquiring into the oppressions of the East India company's government; for reducing the enormous salaries of the company's officers; for the abolition of the iniquitous land tax, which is one of the chief causes that has kept the agriculture and commerce of the country in such a depressed state, and the abolition of the salt and other heavy internal duties and taxes."

These combined causes have produced already, numerous reforms and improvements in the social, political and agricultural condition of India, and there is reason to believe that the influences now acting will continue to increase, and be more and more felt in the imports and exports, the warehouses and the products of Europe and the United States. There is little reason to question that the agriculture of the Mississippi valley is to be brought in conflict with that of the Ganges; that the cotton, tobacco, rice, and sugar, of our southern states is to find formidable rivals in the markets of Europe with the same articles grown in Asia, and this fact should be kept constantly in view by those who are interested in the success of American agriculture and home manufactures. Distances in these days are becoming as nothing; steam has triumphed over space, and that population will maintain the supremacy in agriculture and commerce, which ranks the highest in intellectual power, moral tone, and social freedom.

Fair of the American Institute.

THE Fair of that noble association, the American Institute at New-York, commenced, agreeable to notice, on the 11th of October, and attracted the attention and attendance of multitudes until its final close on the 25th. The arrangement of the vast number of beautiful and useful articles, although commenced early, was not completed until near the close of the week, when the spacious halls of Niblo's Gardens exhibited a scene which excited the admiration of all. The implements displayed were apparently innumerable; every spectator found much to interest and instruct. The agriculturist was gratified at the fine specimens of farm products, the improved implements, and the proofs that met him every where of the importance deservedly attached to his pursuits; the manufacturers looked with delight on the evidences of the high state of perfection to which skill and enterprise has advanced the manufacturing arts among us; and the friends of domestic industry rejoiced in the proofs seen on every hand that labor is not unknown or lightly esteemed in the home of the American farmer and mechanic. There can scarcely be an article named, either as ornamental or useful, that had not its representative at the Fair; and as the living tide of spectators day after day swept through the halls with these specimens of American industry, a feeling of regret would arise in the breast of the patriot, that foreign nations should tax us so heavily for what we are so abundantly able to provide for our selves.

The show of animals took place near Portsmouth street, and although there were some little defects in the arrangement, the show was fine and the animals on the ground were beautiful. A great number of horses were exhibited, among which Messenger, the splendid bay horse that took the first prize at the State Fair at Syracuse, attracted much notice. There was a number of very fine bulls and cows on the ground, and one, the property of Mr. Townsend, a beautiful milch cow, producing 35 quarts of milk per day, elicited much admiration. At no former exhibition has the display of swine equaled the present. There were some few imported hogs; and as usual the Berkshire and Chinese were most numerous and the greatest favorites.

The official report of so much of the proceedings as relates to the plowing match, award of premiums on stock, agricultural implements, &c. will be given in our next, it not having come to hand when this paper was sent to press.

Large Crops.

It will be seen by reference to the notice of the Fairs of Oneida and Cayuga counties, in another part of this paper, that the premium crops of Indian corn in those counties, were 144, 121, 97, 84 and 83 bushels per acre, the largest being raised by our friend OSBORN of Cayuga, whose oat crop of 1839, (130 bushels to the acre,) has never to our knowledge been beaten; we rather think, however, that Mr. INGELL of Oswego, judging from his last year's crop, will bear off the prize for the largest crop of Indian corn. Who will compete with these gentlemen for the premiums offered by the State Society for the best field crops?



Alpaca or Peruvian Sheep.—[Fig. 84.]

This animal, which from its great resemblance to the Camel, was classed by Linnæus, in the *Camelidæ*, is the Lama of Peru and Chili. There are according to Cuvier, three species of the animal; the Guanico, the Paco, and the Vicuña. It is the Paco or Alpaca which is represented above, and which from the peculiar qualities of its long silky hair or wool, has obtained the name of Peruvian sheep. It is a hardy animal, being used for beasts of burden in the mountainous regions of Peru, being able carry from 150 to 200 lbs. over those mountain passes, some ten or fifteen miles in a day. Its foot adapts it to a mountain region, and being gifted with a thick skin and a fine fleece, and never perspiring like the common sheep, it is capable of enduring a great degree of cold, and resists damp or rain better than the hardiest races of the common sheep. The Alpaca wool is whiter, brighter, not being colored with the animal secretions as common wool, is straighter, stronger, and softer, small in fibre, pliable and elastic, more resembling silk than wool, and producing a fabric of a texture between silk and common sheep's wool. In consequence of this animal possessing such valuable properties, both in flesh, and in wool, a great effort is now making to introduce it extensively into the more elevated districts of England and Scotland, as it is thought it will be more valuable in every respect, and save the annual expense of about two millions of dollars, which it is calculated is now expended in oil, tar, butter, &c. for smearing sheep and saving them from the effects of wet and cold in these same districts. There are at present from 90 to 100 Alpacas in Great Britain, and it is expected quite a number will be introduced the present year, through the exertions of Messrs. Dawson and Atkins, who exhibited several at the meeting of the British Association at Liverpool. From a memoir printed for the Nat. History Society of Liverpool, by Mr. Walton, we gather the following facts:—"The Alpaca sheep breed in the third year, the period of gestation is seven months, have one at a birth, attain the height of 34 or 4 feet, and usually live ten or eleven years. In Peru, they are mostly shorn every third year, about April, when the wool is about 8 inches long; it usually grows three inches in a year, but if shorn yearly grows six or eight inches, and the fleece weighs from six to eight pounds. A male Alpaca shorn three years ago had a coat from eighteen to twenty inches long; and instances are known of Alpaca wool attaining the extraordinary length of thirty inches. The weight of a full grown carcass is about 250 lbs. and the meat is of the finest quality, being fully equal to venison." The Society above named, recommend the Alpaca, "as a breeding stock not likely to interfere with sheep pasturage, and as being calculated to supply the manufacturer with another raw material of our own growth, applicable by its fine quality and glossiness to the purposes of silk; and thus not interfering with either the growers of British wool, or worsted spinners, and woolen manufacturers." Considerable quantities of Alpaca wool are imported into England, where it is much of it spun, taken to France, and made into the finest chashmere shawls. It is also extensively mixed with the finer worsted goods, and in many cases passes for silk. The best camels and moreens have more or less of it in their texture.

We allude to this subject here, because we wish to ask, why the Alpaca, if it possesses the qualities ascribed to it, both as productive of food and clothing, might not be successfully introduced into the United States? It is perfectly hardy, its food is the coarsest grass, and it thrives where a common sheep would starve, its flesh is excellent, and its fine fleece; is useful for many purposes to which our Saxon or Merino wools, from their shortness and the difficulty of making them perfectly white, are inapplicable. There are large tracts of country both in New-England and New-York, not indeed too elevated for sheep, but which there is little doubt would be found perfectly adapted to the Alpaca. We hope some of the enterprising Americans engaged in the South American trade will make an ef-

fort to transport some of these valuable animals to this country. Just before the French occupied Spain, a number of the Lamas, embracing the three species, were sent from Peru and Chili across the continent to Buenos Ayres, and thence shipped to Cadiz. They fell into the hands of the French, and Bory St. Vincent, who was then with the French army, made accurate drawings of them, and paid much attention to their habits, for several years. It was found that the fleece of the Alpaca-Vicuña, (produced by a cross between a Vicuña and an Alpaca,) has a much greater length than any other variety, and is several times heavier. In the journey and voyage from Peru and Chili across the continent and ocean, they were fed with potatoes, maize, or corn, and hay. As soon, however, as the supply of potatoes was exhausted, and they were confined to dry food alone, constipation came on so violently, that medical aid was required, and several died during the transit.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society.
Vol. 2, part II. London.

This is a valuable publication, devoted to the publishing the Prize Essays on the various topics of Agriculture proposed by the Royal Society. It is issued occasionally, in numbers of some 200 pages each. There are several good papers in the present number, one of which is "On the Specific Identity of the fungi producing Rust and Mildew; by J. S. Henslow." This paper is illustrated with an engraving representing this fungus in its several states, and proving very conclusively that the red matter called rust on wheat, is only the spores of the mildew plant *Puccinia graminis*, at an early period of its growth; the fungi assuming a darker hue, and a somewhat different form, at a later period. This fact of identity is of some practical importance, since the farmer has only one instead of two enemies to attack, and will therefore be more likely to devise some method of ensuring success.

In some remarks on the blight supposed to be produced in wheat by the berberry, Mr. Henslow seems to admit that there is some connection between the blight and the plant, though he says he has "met with no evidence which can explain the nature of this relation." Mr. Puss, President of the Royal Society, in a note to this article describes a case in which a berberry hedge having frequently blighted wheat, it was grubbed up, and while this process was going on, one of the largest of the bushes was removed and placed in the middle of the wheat field. "At reaping, it was found that the straw and grain for two or three yards around was evidently injured by mildew." As a set off to this, we may mention here the experiment made by Col. Hecox of Skaneateles, when a berberry bush was planted out early in a wheat field, grew and flourished, without producing the least effect on the wheat as was witnessed by many. The fact that the mildew of wheat and that of the berberry are two distinct plants, as we have shown by engravings at p. 120, vol. 7th of the Cultivator, is sufficient to do away this impression that the berberry is more injurious than any other bush of equal size.

Silliman's Journal of Science and Arts.

The leading paper of this excellent quarterly for October, is the "First anniversary address before the Association of American Geologists, at their second annual meeting in Philadelphia, by Prof. Edward Hitchcock." It is a rapid and lucid review of the progress of geological science, and its present state in this country; with numerous illustrations of its connection with agriculture, religion and the natural sciences. There is also an able paper on the fossil Infusoria, (rock meal of Sweden) by Prof. Bailey of West Point. The astonishing fact, that vast masses of our hardest rocks, and large bodies of earth, are nothing but the shells of microscopic animals, is fully shown. There is also an interesting account of the progress of steam naviga-

tion in the Pacific; and remarks on the connection of the Atlantic and Pacific by a cut across the Isthmus of Panama. There are besides a great number of papers on various subjects of science, with copious bibliographical notices, &c. &c. New-Haven Ct. Messrs. Silliman, Editors. Terms \$6.00 per annum.

Blacklock's Treatise on Sheep.

For the re-publication of this standard English work on sheep, we are indebted to those enterprising publishers, Wiley & Putnam of New-York. Blacklock's Treatise on Sheep, is one which contains more valuable information respecting the sheep, than any other work extant. It is illustrated by a series of good engravings, representing the different kinds of sheep; the processes of washing and shearing; the structure and growth of the wool; the diseases of the animal, such as foot rot, and hydatids, with sections of the foot, head, &c. There is scarce a subject of importance connected with this animal, that is not here fully discussed, and the whole is compressed into a cheap and portable volume. Messrs. Wiley & Putnam deserve not only much credit for their selections, but also for the fine style in which they are getting out their books intended for the use of the farmer. Every man who keeps sheep should have a copy of Blacklock.

North American Review, for Oct. 1841.

This is a capital number of this capital work, as a glance at its table of contents will show. The subjects of the papers are as follows:—Moschele's Life of Beethoven; Early History of Ohio; The Navy; Rural Cemeteries; Relations with England; Dr. Harris's Memorials of Oglethorpe; Stephen's Incidents in Central America; Wright's Translation of La Fontaine; Critical Notices, &c. The article on Ohio, is the one which to us is the most interesting in the number; and in truth the history of that state is a study for the agriculturist, the political economist, and the statesman. Here is a territory with a million and a half of inhabitants, with astonishing resources of nearly all kinds, a soil producing annually some 15 or 20 million bushels of wheat, and 30 or 40 million bushels of corn, and yet the time when its soil was only trod by savages is in the recollection of many. The growth of an empire is here seen from the greenness of youth to powerful manhood; and of the many events sketched in the Review, and the works at the head of the article, there are many who can say, "this I saw, and part of that I was." The papers on the Navy, and on our Relations with England, are ably written, and will attract attention at the present time. The views are in general just, and the matters in dispute are touched in a clear and forcible manner. There is a spice of old Fannuill Hall in the papers, which proves that the spirit of '76 is not yet extinct. The review of Stephens is most favorable; indeed it could not well be otherwise, for Stephens is the beau ideal of a traveller. By the way, we are glad to learn that he and his former companion are off to Central America again, to complete the exploration and survey, and perhaps removal of some of the most striking of these monuments of olden time. Boston, Munroe & Co.

Essay on Steam Plowing—Practical Essay on Milking.

We have received from the respected author, WILLIAM BLURTON, of Field Hall, Utoxeter, England, two small pamphlets, the titles of which are given above. Mr. Blurton is a decided advocate for the use of the steam plow, and the Essay is devoted to proving its practicability and its feasibility. If his arguments and statements are well founded, there would seem little room for doubt, that at no distant period the steam plow will be found indispensable on large farms. We have long believed that if the steam-plow ever comes into use, it will be invented by a Yankee, and first used on the prairies of the great west.

The Essay on Milking is chiefly devoted to the subject of draining the udder of the cow by means of the "syphon and can," invented by the author, as well as showing the nature of the causes that produce "holding up of the milk," in many cows. The importance of great care and regularity in the milking is strongly enforced, particularly in securing the whole value of the "drippings" or "strippings," as the last milk drawn from the cow is called. We have always been afraid of machinery for drawing off cow's milk, since we knew a few years since several cows who had their udders destroyed by inflammation, resulting from attempts (which were for a time successful and promised much) to draw off milk by inserting tubes in the teats, instead of forcing out the milk by the hand in the ordinary way. Mr. B's apparatus may be better than the one we saw tried; but after all, we believe the soft hand of the dairy maid is the best apparatus for extracting milk. Mr. Blurton considers the "holding up of milk," to result from over fullness of the udder, which causes consequent partial inflammation and retention. We do not doubt this is sometimes the case, but some cows hold up their milk at times when it could not result from rich and nutritious food, and the consequent secretion of extra quantities of milk, and in a manner which proves to us that it is a voluntary act, and depending on the volition of the animal. The engravings which accompany the work are well executed, particularly the one representing a section of the udder. Of the facts contained in these Essays we may hereafter avail ourselves.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

The Hessian Fly.

Messrs. GAYLORD & TUCKER—I thought the question in relation to the propagation of the Hessian fly had been settled more than 20 years ago, until I observed in your last number of the Cultivator, it is still open, in some parts of the country; I therefore send you an extract from the American Farmer, edited by J. S. Skinner in Baltimore, vol. 8, p. 241, October, 1823. In this extract, a former publication is referred to, which will be found in the 1st vol. of the same periodical, p. 296, and the communication dated October, 1817. Yours respectfully,

JOHN H. COCKE.

Bremo, Fluvanna Co. Va. Aug. 18, 1841.

EXTRACT.

To the Editor of the American Farmer—I send you herein, the blades of wheat with the eggs of the Hessian fly upon them. They are too minute to be examined satisfactorily without the aid of a magnifying glass, though they are discoverable by a good naked eye.

After keeping some blades of wheat three days, wrapped in a paper in my pocket, and finding the eggs were still discernible, (although the blades are much withered, and some of the eggs missing,) I hope the fresh ones enclosed this morning may reach you in such preservation as to enable you in future to recognize the eggs in your own fields.

I have observed for seven years past, about the 10th of October, in this part of Virginia, the eggs of the Hessian fly to be found upon the volunteer, and early sown wheat—they remain in this state from six to ten days, when they hatch into very minute worms, and immediately descend to the tender parts of the plant, enveloped by the blade near the root, where for a few days at this season, they may be seen in this minute maggot form, which soon changes into the chrysalis—at first of a clear transparent white, which as it enlarges, shows a spot in the middle, and finally assumes a flaxseed color and size.

I have been thus particular, although I published this account of the Hessian fly several years ago, as subsequent observations, more particularly, excited by Dr. Say's account of this insect, in his communication to the Philadelphia Society for the Promotion of the Natural Sciences, have fully satisfied me that that learned and distinguished naturalist, has fallen into an error in relation to the propagation of this destructive insect. It may be said that these eggs may be the deposit of some other fly; but I have uniformly found them when the well known Hessian flies, are seen to make their first appearance in the fall, and immediately preceding the fatal influence of this enemy to our wheat crops. I have seen the worms descending from the deserted shell of the egg towards the stalk of the plant, and upon stripping down the blade, I have discovered a worm of the same appearance, attached to the tender stalk of the wheat near the root, and finally in the course of successive examinations, I found these worms after a few days disappearing and in their place, the white transparent chrysalis.

By giving the foregoing a place in your valuable paper it may possibly lead to some further discoveries of greater value to the community than the mere *modus propagandi* in this hitherto unsatisfactory enemy, to the most valuable of our agricultural products. Yours, &c. &c.

J. H. COCKE.

The Woburns.

In my last, I mentioned that I should shortly have some Woburn and Berkshire hogs fed by some disinterested person by measure. After the experiments made by the two Mr. Barclays, and between Mr. Fanning and myself, had resulted so favorably to the Woburns, the advocates of the black Berkshires contended that although the Woburns had gained most, that they consumed more. To test this matter, I made a proposition in the Kentucky Farmer, to have some of each breed put into the hands of some gentleman, who should feed them all alike, and report the result. This proposition was taken by Mr. Wm. R. Duncan and Mr. James F. Taylor. The time was determined by Mr. Taylor. I wished to have them fed at least thirty days. I also made a proposition in the Kentucky Farmer, more than a year ago, to have a parcel of pigs raised and treated alike by some disinterested person. This proposition has never been accepted in Kentucky. I had a gentleman of Ohio, propose to accept of it, if some of the Kentucky sows should.

An accident happened to Mr. Duncan's sow "Caroline Scott," so that she was not brought. Mr. Taylor brought his black Berkshire sow "Belinda," over two years old. I brought my Woburn sow Patience, not quite thirteen months old, and my Woburn sow Courtenay, over three years old. They were put into the hands of Mr. James F. Taylor, and were fed upon separate stalks, and were attended to by him personally. We had two objects in view; first, to see which would consume most food; and the second, which would gain most upon the food consumed.

The result has been as favorable as the warmest advocates of the Woburns could have wished. Patience was proved to be the smallest eater, and under very unfavorable circumstances gained as much as the Berkshire while she was fed. Courtenay consumed a quantity of food, gained in ten days nine pounds the most. Below you have Mr. Weather's statement.

SAMUEL D. MARTIN.

Colbyville, (Ky.) Sept. 1841.

A trial between the Black Berkshires and Woburns, fed by measure, by JAMES WEATHERS, Jr. at the request of Dr. MARTIN and JAMES F. TAYLOR of Clarke county, Ky.

(A COPY.)

"There were put under my care, on the 13th August, by Dr. Martin and Jas. F. Taylor, two Woburn and one Berkshire sows, for the purpose of being fed; and I received directions to give each one five pounds of corn a day, and to increase the quantity until I should find what quantity the smallest eater would consume. On that evening, I gave to each one of them two and a half pounds of corn, and the next day five pounds each, and on the 10th, nearly six pounds to each. One of the Woburns (Patience,) failed to eat all of her allowance, and the next day was very lame. (I suppose slightly foundered,) and their food was again reduced to five pounds each per day, until the 20th, when (Patience having recovered,) it was gradually increased so as to give each one fifty-two pounds of corn in the ten days, when they were weighed, and the following is the result:

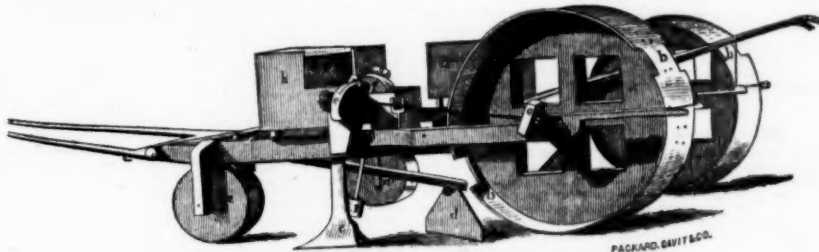
Mr. Taylor's Black Berkshire Belinda, gained 21 lbs.
Dr. Martin's Woburn Patience, gained 21 lbs.
Dr. Martin's Woburn Courtenay, gained 30 lbs.

JAMES WEATHERS, Jr.

Clarke County, Ky. Aug. 23, 1841.

I notice a piece over the signature of James Jones, headed "Dr. Martin's pig beaten," and the weight of a pig is given at four months old, that had eat six gallons of (buttermilk) milk a day!! (save a little for family use.) Mr. Jones is informed that Dr. Martin's pigs were purposely kept back from growing; until they were four months old, at which time the Doctor commenced full feeding. Although six gallons of milk a day is the greatest consumption by a pig, ever heard of, Dr. M. hopes Mr. Jones will report his weights until his pig reaches eight months and seven days, which was the last time the Dr.'s pigs were weighed. But only that of a pig using 45 lbs. of milk a day!! Small eaters!! A few cows would be necessary to feed many such pigs.

M.



Old's Corn Planter—[Fig. 68.]

Messrs. GAYLORD & TUCKER—I have for about two years been engaged in getting up a machine, under the broad name of Corn Planter and Seed Sower; which has been secured by letters Patent; and although awarded the Scott's Legacy Premium, (\$20,) by the Franklin Institute at Philadelphia, I was not satisfied that it had attained to its highest state of perfection. I have therefore, instead of introducing it to the public at large, confined it to narrow limits, and made it my utriusque object, by day and night, by actual experiment and deep study, to bring it to its greatest perfection. How far I have succeeded, the reports of the late Fair of the State Agricultural Society of New-York, at Syracuse, and of the American Institute at New-York, will satisfy the public mind, better than my own attestations.

The above cut is a representation of my double corn planter, which plants two rows at once, and makes the rows both ways, to be drawn by a horse. Similar letters refer to similar parts.

I have also machines for planting one row of corn, horse power, which may be arranged to drop the corn any distance apart, from a continued drill, to hills of five feet or more. It will also drop two or more kinds of seed in the same row, at given points,

and may be applied to dropping the fine manure in the hill with the seed. The same principle applies to the hand drills, for sowing or planting the seeds for the various root crops, &c. I have also a plan for sowing wheat in drills or broad cast, which will apply to all grains and grass seed, together with the fine manures. I have appointed J. Scott & Co., 31 Cortland-street, New-York, agents to manufacture and sell the above described machines, where they can be seen at any time. All orders from any part of the United States, post paid, directed to them, will be promptly attended to. Those wishing to obtain machines for the coming spring, will do well to order them soon. I intend myself, Providence permitting, to travel through the western and southern states this fall and coming winter, to introduce the above articles where they may be wanted.

Editors of agricultural papers generally, and all papers friendly to agricultural improvements, are invited to give the above such notice as they may think practicable. They will also confer a favor to the subscriber by sending him a copy containing their quotations and remarks, directed to his residence.

Marlborough, Vt.

CALVIN OLDS.

Traveling Memoranda—No. 5.

Cincinnati, O., August 27, 1841.

EDITORS OF CULTIVATOR—My last was written from "Prospect Hill," the name of Judge Beatty's farm—a name that, to eastern people, who build their houses upon a bare hill, so as to be seen of the world, would appear very inappropriate; for the prospect does not extend beyond his own farm. And here let me remark that a traveler upon the great thoroughfares of this state, never sees the best part of Kentucky. The best houses are located back from the road, and the way of approach to them is generally through one of the woodland pastures that add such great beauty to Kentucky scenery; and it is no uncommon thing that the only approach to a large plantation lies through one or two other plantations. The inhabitants, preferring private to public roads, and not seeming to view it as any serious inconvenience that they have to pass a dozen gates between the mansion and the public road. But their gates are such as that too numerous class who have been "putting up the bars" all their lives, without getting the gap stopped, might examine and pattern after with profit.

Judge Beatty's name has lately become well known as a writer of several essays upon Kentucky agriculture, and a letter upon the profits of the hemp culture upon his own farm. The Judge also keeps 4 or 500 fine wool sheep, and which appeared in very good condition, and what appeared very singular to me, he takes no trouble whatever to prevent breeding in-and-in, and stoutly maintains that the importance of constantly crossing is entirely overrated. Although I could hardly find my theory by example of the deleterious effects of breeding in-and-in, yet I could not become a convert to the Judge's theory.

One thing I learned from the long experience of the Judge and many others, that the hemp crop, although such a heavy one, does not exhaust the soil. He also thinks that water rotting may be profitably adopted in many places.

Having spent just such a time as agricultural brethren should always spend together, my friend ordered his carriage to the door early on Monday morning, and took me into Mayville, six miles, in time to take the morning boat for Cincinnati, which is about 60 miles below. Although this is "the river of beauty," it is now so sunk below the level of the rich bottom lands upon its banks, that we were more interested in viewing our remarkable proximity to the bottom of the stream, than looking at the farms along the shore, except those which are elevated upon the sides of the ranges of high hills that every where hem in the valley of almost all the great western streams. It may be interesting to some, that I should say that the Ohio varies 60 feet, from low to high water. The bottom lands are very broad and level, and in the great flood of 1832, were covered in many places from hill to hill, producing such devastation and distress as only can be known to the "dwellers upon the mighty waters." This great and flourishing city of the west, is built upon the "first and second bottom," the upper level being some 60 feet higher than the first, which was found by the flood of 1832 to be several feet too low, for the whole of its broad surface was completely submerged, so that large steamers traversed the most populous and business streets. Having formerly been a resident here, when I first came to the west, I was enabled after an absence of a dozen years, to realize the magic like change that is so rapidly going on throughout the Great West. I wish I could truly say that it was in all cases a change that brought a great increase of human happiness in its train. But until men cease to look for wealth and happiness in connection only, and for honor and respectability only in towns and cities, we must expect to see crime and degradation as the accompaniments of what we are prone to call "great improvements."

But amid all the change that I see here, I find one "that can, that will, that must," produce an increase of happiness—the blessed and blessing giving spirit of temperance has hovered over this spot. The fruits of the visit of this lovely goddess are visible here, as they are every where that the inhabitants of city, town, country, or farm, encourage her to alight as she flies over our country. As another evidence of improvement, allow me to say in connection with this subject, that although only a few years have elapsed since fashion dictated that every gentleman in this region should keep his sideboard loaded with liquor, yet during my visit to Kentucky and this vicinity, I have not, in one single instance, seen such a thing, and in only one instance have I been solicited to take a glass of wine, which, as the host did not partake of himself, went the round of our circle and from the room untouched.

But enough of moralizing—now to business. Early in the morning after my arrival in Cincinnati, I made near my distant acquaintance with my friends Affleck and Foster, the editor and publisher of a very neat monthly journal in pamphlet form, devoted to the pleasing task of elevating the character and standing of the cultivators of the American soil, and directly afterwards, I received an invitation, which I accepted from Mr. Wm. Neff, to take a seat in his carriage, and in company with Mr. Affleck, visit his farm about seven miles out, on the turnpike leading towards Indiana. Mr. Neff is a gentleman of fortune, retired from the business of a merchant, and has taken this very pleasant method of amusing himself by doing good to the cause of agricultural improvement in every branch of it that he undertakes.

Here I found a very extensive and beautiful stock of Short

Horns, which the great drought that prevails hereabouts has brought into the stable for feed, as Mr. Neff has determined for the purpose of getting them more generally introduced into common use through the country, to offer the whole lot at auction a few days hence, on a long credit, and is, therefore, obliged to feed them, to keep them in a fit condition for sale. He also has a very fine lot of hogs, of the Berkshire and Irish Grazer breeds. Mr. Neff is an extensive pork packer, and although he prefers the Berkshire for his own use, yet thinks that among a people that make pork, as a Pindar did his razors, to sell, without regard to quality, that a larger breed would be more profitable.

Mr. Neff is also a successful cultivator of the grape, though by no means to so great an extent as Mr. Longworth of this city, who is probably one of the largest vintners in the Union.

I saw on Mr. Neff's farm a specimen of hedge, of the Oange Orange, that for beauty, and probably will also be for usefulness, before any other specimen of hedge that I have ever seen in this country. As soon as this is sufficiently grown and proved, Mr. Neff will give some account of it that will be useful to others. After spending a delightful day, we rode into town fully impressed with the truth of the saying, that

"God made the country, and man made the town;"

or in other words, that the beauty, comforts, and enjoyments of a country life are far superior to those of the town.

The 28th I spent in that very busy occupation of seeing every thing, but more particularly in examining the great extension of the city, and great increase of manufacturing establishments, all of which indicate an improved state of agriculture, for we must constantly bear in mind that it is the foundation stone of all commercial and manufacturing prosperity.

If your limits would permit, I would give you a long chapter upon the subject of the pork business alone.

Hog killing, and pork packing, and bacon smoking, is carried on here to an extent almost surpassing belief. I am sorry to say that all those engaged in it the last year are likely to suffer great loss by the depression of prices. And the farmer is depressed to suffer this year, as the depression will now affect the article in his hands. A gentleman well acquainted and well informed in the business, thinks that pork will not net the farmer this fall more than 1 1/2 or 2 cents a pound. I also visited the markets here, as I look upon them as affording a pretty fair index of the surrounding country. I need not have been told that the country had suffered for want of rain—the vegetable products, particularly potatoes, showed that. Potatoes, which I have often seen sold in this market for 12 cents a bushel, are now few and far between at one-fourth that sum a piece and as poor as they are dear at that. Total destruction of the germ of this fruit took place last winter, throughout the west.

Apples are also very poor this season. Speaking of fruits and vegetables, reminds me of a new enemy of man which has made its appearance this summer in some parts of Kentucky in great quantities. It is a black, or in some, black with lead colored stripes, bug or fly, about half or three-quarters of an inch long and said by those acquainted to belong to the cantharides family, which is very destructive upon potato tops and many other green and tender plants.

Last evening I was called upon by a most cordial invitation, with Mr. John J. Mahard, to ride with Mr. Neff to his farm about seven miles N. E. from the city, where I found probably the largest and best stock of Berkshire hogs in Ohio. Mr. Neff personally superintends his farm and breeding stock, and also his pork packing and shipping house in the city. I was highly pleased with him and his family, and his stock and farm, and would gladly have spent another day under his hospitable roof, but having already engaged my passage in the fast mail for Baltimore this day at 11 o'clock, I was compelled, as I have often been of late, to forego the pleasure of a more lengthy visit where I was made to feel that I was welcome—welcome too, not as a friend or personal acquaintance, but one who has, I am bound to believe, become favorably known by name, to many of the readers of the Cultivator, as a friend to agriculture.

The river is too low to admit of steamers ascending to Wheeling, and, therefore, in a few hours I shall be on my way through the great and fertile state of Ohio, right sorry that time will not allow me to take notes by the way. Anxiety to reach Washington during the present session of Congress, will also prevent me from adopting a slower mode of locomotion, and passing through Pennsylvania, and accepting the public invitation to visit Mr. Wm. P. Kinzer, and whom I now thus publicly and cordially thank and assure that if I ever comes in my way to become personally acquainted with him, I shall not neglect it. And although it is not in my way of business to "deliver lectures on agriculture," or to "prepare myself," except upon the spur of the moment, for anything, yet I hope when we do meet, that my Pennsylvania friend will find that my conversational powers are not entirely lacking.

And now, Messrs. Editors, I have only time to say, that I shall continue to furnish my "memoranda," as I progress along my tour, which you must administer to your readers in "broken doses," taking great care not to produce a surfeit. And I wish you to give early notice to all who are determined to follow my notes through my journey, that they may make early

Mr. Allen's Visit to England.

But I shall not have any of the Kenilworth breed of pigs for sale short of a year, I propose crossing the males upon the large white Yorkshire, and also with a few of my Berkshires. I think the produce of either will be of great size and excellent quality; and as the number of sows to be stunted in December to farrow to a Kenilworth boar in the spring will be in accordance with the orders of my friends for this cross, they will please to let me know their wishes on this head as quick as possible; for they may be assured, that even with this produce, they may safely compete for gain of flesh, in a given space of

I am, as ever, sincerely yours,
Albany, October 27, 1841. A. B. ALLEN.

of the Short Horns. Following his example, I will quote the British Husbandry and Low, as the best British authorities I know of on this subject. In British Husbandry, ch. 36, on milch cows, it is said, "the breed most in esteem with the London cow keepers who sell the milk without making butter or cheese, is of the old Yorkshire stock, or a cross between the Yorkshire and the Dutch; and the reason assigned for their being in that case soiled in the house, and of course provided with an abundance of cut grass, brewers' grains, and succulent roots; but when grazed, they require very good pasture, and are not generally considered to produce milk of a rich quality. But the breed which of all others appears to be gaining ground throughout the United Kingdom for abundant produce of extraordinary pasture is the Arrshire breed." David Macdonald, in his *Illustrations of Practical Agriculture* says "by paying attention to the characters that indicate a disposition to yield milk, the breed of Arrshire has become greatly more

Which gives a nett profit of \$47. 71 per acre. \$190 88
 You may think the price of corn too high. I prized it at what
 it is now worth in this section of the country. Very respect
 fully,
 EPHRAIM G. HULETT
 Wallingford, Vt. Oct. 8, 1841.

The design of these is to pull thistles where there are but few, as in grain, when a hoe could not be used without destroying much grain. In soft ground, we have pulled them with roots eighteen inches long and upwards; and faster than they could have been cut up with any instrument; and by going over the ground twice, as there will always some come up after the first

Thankful that what was said has in any degree met your approbation; regretting that it was not more worthy of that approbation, and wishing you every success in the noble enterprise in which you are engaged,

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully yours,
Union College, Schenectady, Oct. 10th, 1841. E. NOTT

New-Jersey Marl.

Messrs. GAYLORD & TUCKER—A correspondent in the ninth number of the Cultivator, from Maryland, wishes some information touching New-Jersey Marl. I will endeavor to satisfy you both on that subject, as briefly as possible, hoping, however, that some other person may take upon himself the undertaking, whose acquaintance and knowledge is extensive, and whose graphic pen is more fertile in delineation than mine. Presuming that I may be able to present some facts not wholly uninteresting, encourages me to proceed, although, for the want of uniform materials, I shall be unable to satisfy Mr. Boyle of the easiest and best modes of digging Marl, consequently my remarks can be only congruous with our practices. My whereabouts is near the center of Burlington county, a county abounding with marl, and, through its agency, has attained a high state of productiveness. This substance is used as a general manure on all occasions by those farmers who can obtain it conveniently, and the great quantities that are annually raised and scattered broadcast over our grass and grain fields, attest its importance and usefulness, while its fertilizing effects are daily seen among the growing crops. With the object of elucidating the subject, I will methodically arrange my remarks under appropriate heads, and speak first, of the methods employed in digging and hauling, the usual depth of the pits below the surface, how it is raised from the pits, etc.; secondly, the mode of application; thirdly, geological formation of the marl region; and, lastly, analysis of greensand or marl, as furnished by Professor Rogers, State Geologist.

The methods employed in digging, etc., must necessarily with the farmer, depend on the season and his crops. Digging, however, is carried on at all seasons of the year, although it is obviously improper, for the reason that in the winter and spring the inclemency of the weather and fullness of the springs, retards and exposes the operators. The proper period for digging, and which is generally adopted, is immediately after the harvest, that early in autumn, there is less water percolating through the marl, it is drier and digs easier, a greater quantity can be raised within a given period of time, and the pits carried to a much greater depth, than at any other season of the year. Another evil to be encountered in sinking pits when the springs are full, is the falling in of the walls, which usually occurs with who is so fortunate as to be the owner of marl beds, or who can purchase them, endeavors to have as much raised as will supply his wants for a twelvemonth. The digging is performed with small No. 1 semi-concave shovels, shaped by the smiths in the neighborhood; this peculiar form, it is said facilitates the digging, penetrating the marl easier, and overcomes the adhesion of the marl to the implement, which usually occurs with the common shovel. The secret of the operation no doubt lies in the peculiar form and shape of the instrument, the blade being straight and not dish, inclined a little backwards from a straight line running through the handle. A slight movement of the shovel, with the operator in the pits, upwards, readily frees it from the marl, while the upward throw with the common shovel, in consequence of its bowl or dish-like form, diverts it from a straight course and causes it to crumble. The pits are generally sunk along side-hills of ravines, or near the banks of running streams, and their depths depend upon various circumstances. From four to eight feet is the usual depth the pits are carried in the marl, yet, under some peculiar management, they have been carried down from fifteen to twenty feet; but these instances are very unfrequent. As a general rule, one which should be observed, is that the pits should be carried farther into the marl, than the corresponding covering of earth. Where the excavations are made for new pits, the waste earth to fill the old ones. This avoids waste land, thwarts the danger of animals getting into them, to say nothing of the slovenly appearance which they present, and by a slight sprinkling of the marl over them, they are easily converted into grass. Whoever has been to the pits, and has never seen a marl pit open, a practice, I am sorry to say, has too many followers. The size of the pits depends upon the number of workmen employed, but seldom less than two are allowed, nor more than four to work one out, while one or more stands on a platform level with the surface of the marl, to throw it back as it is cast out. The amount estimated for one person to dig in this manner per day, is from five to ten tons, and the cost of digging is graded by the locality and time of operation; in reality has not yet discovered nor art invented any other modes by which marl is raised, other than manual labor, although I do not imagine that the day is far off, when they will bring to our assistance, aid by which physical power will be more or less superseded.

Hauling is performed at all times throughout the year, especially by those who have to cart some considerable distance, but others generally adopt the winter months as affording more leisure and facility in its direct application, as our meadow lands can be better approached then by the team, than at any other time. Many are in the practice of casting it into heaps, should the land prove too soft to drive over loaded, and when it will permit to scatter it broadcast. This is more expensive, yet, nevertheless, is sometimes adopted. Winter hauling is to be the season for carting or hauling marl. It is sold by the ton where raised, (one bushel weighing one hundred pounds,) the price varying from twenty-five to thirty-five cents.

The modes of its application to the crops or soil are numerous and no uniform system is followed; each one is governed by his caprice or fancy. It is applied to corn when planted or in its early growth; to potatoes in the hill row, before planting, or after, (but generally covered with them,) to winter grain; in short with those farmers who have abundance of it, it is a "panacea," good for all kinds of crops. Apply it as best suits your convenience, you cannot use it amiss, which is saying a great deal, yet needs no qualification; but neglect not to use it. Peradventure you may think I claim too much for it. Try it. Since the introduction of lime among us, (thanks to the genius of improvement,) many of our sandy loams, by a top dressing of the two together, have approximated in yield to the best wheat lands of Penn. It is spread broadcast (marl and lime) over fallow, at the rate of five tons of the former to thirty bushels of the latter per acre. Experience has demonstrated that the combination is one of great usefulness, that the efficacy of the one contributes to the speedy action of the other; that the noxious agents contained in the clayey marl, when brought in contact with lime are rendered inert to vegetation, but more properly speaking, by mutual affinities converted into efficacious substances. Pasture lands, whether meadow or upland, that have afforded but a scanty herbage, are astonishingly benefited by a slight application of marl; but the more general method of applying it, is to spread it broadcast over a grass sward following a winter crop. Its most decided effects I am inclined to believe are on a clover ley; and so powerful are its fertilizing powers, that when scattered over those melancholy fields, so sterile as to produce only a stunted growth of wild weeds, a luxuriant crop of white clover follows.

Geological formation. Whoever has traversed the marl regions, discovered at once the want of uniformity. It comprises, strictly speaking, several subordinate beds, all belonging, however, to two principal varieties. These tertiary beds are composed of layers of clay, containing fossil shells, and other organic remains, of sand containing oyster shells. "The Cretaceous or greensand series, comprises beds of blue clay, which contain leaves, parts of trees, lignite, amber, and other vegetable products, a brown coarse ferruginous sandstone and con-

glomerate, crowning the tops of low hills; a yellow ferruginous sand, sometimes cemented into soft rock, and sometimes occurring as loose sand, containing numerous cast-off shells; a yellowish fossiliferous limestone, often siliceous; and the greensand marl beds, consisting of beds of dark clay of the same, mingled with greensand; of the greensand almost alone in a pulverulent state." This lower bed of greensand is properly the purest and best marl; the ferruginous sand or rock, (called iron ore,) coats the beds and varies much in its density and thickness. The clayey stratum or veins running through the marl, constitutes near fifty per cent of its whole bulk, and which gives to it its adhesiveness. This may be taken as the maximum per centage throughout the region, deduced from several analyses made; for instance, a specimen of marl near Middletown, Monmouth county, gave but forty-six per cent of greensand; another from Squankum, which marl heretofore has been deemed the best, gave but forty-eight per cent, while that taken from Mansington Hill, Salem county, gave eighty-eight per cent.

Chemical composition of marl, as found in this vicinity, Professor Rogers says, affords in 100 parts,

Greensand,	82-80
Clay,	10-40
Quartz sand,	7-00
	100-00
And the analysis of greensand gives, in 100 parts the following results:	
Silica,	60-75
Alumina,	6-40
Peroxide of iron,	22-14
Potash,	12-96
Water,	7-50
	99-85

"Besides the aluminous and silicious matters here recorded as usually present with the greensand in the general mass, there occurs occasionally several other substances, which, though comparatively minute in quantity, are possessed of active properties. Some of these materials are deleterious, while some are undoubtedly beneficial in their action upon vegetation. They are sulphate of iron, sulphate of alumina, sulphate of lime, sulphate of magnesia, carbonate of lime, and also phosphate of iron." These salts are derived principally from constituents found in the clayey stratum. Sulphate of iron is found abundantly in the clay, and by the action of atmosphere and moisture upon this salt, the sulphate is formed; sulphate of alumina arises from the union of sulphuric acid produced by the action with the argillaceous earths, sulphate of lime and magnesia occurs from a combination of the same acid with lime and magnesia, that is sometimes found interspersed in minute particles through the greensand. Carbonate of lime undoubtedly arises from the fossils and other organic remains found embedded in the clay, as well as the phosphate of iron, by the action of phosphoric acid upon the same organic substances.

Professor Rogers says, "the total thickness of the greensand formation, estimating it from the bottom of the lowermost layers, abounding in the green granular mineral to the overlying yellow ferruginous sand or the limestone, is not more than thirty feet." In some places the relative depth is not more than thirty feet.

I take great pleasure in transcribing Professor Rogers' remarks and observations entire, on the "Economic Relations of Greensand Formation." Those who have not profited by his judicious observations on this subject, will readily perceive the rationality of his reasoning, the wherefore of its turning vegetable in partial drouths, when applied to corn or clover sward, and cannot fail to perceive the vast importance the two minerals exert when applied to the wants of husbandry.

Abundant evidence might be adduced to prove that the true fertilizing principle in marl is not lime but potash. The analyses which have been made, give us in several cases no lime at all, and when a small proportion of lime is present in the green granular mineral, it is in a combined state, chemically united with other ingredients, and not traceable to the organic remains, which are in many of these instances not present in the stratum. Besides, the quantity of shelly matter, even where the shells are plentiful, is so disproportionately small, and the matter of the shells often so firm and unabsorbent that it is not easily disintegrated, necessary to form a calcareous matter, and act speedily upon the crop, that the striking effects witnessed from the marl, can in no wise be attributed to the trivial amount of lime which the shells may occasionally furnish to the land. Nevertheless, as some feeble beneficial effects may possibly arise from this source, it may be of service to the agriculturist, in choosing between different fossiliferous marls, to attend to the nature of the particles of the shells, and the state of their less decomposition or change in which they are found. It must be borne in mind, that a large portion of the visible marl stratum is immediately overpread by a very porous layer of yellow ferruginous sand, and that this introduces to it a perpetual supply of water, furnished with great regularity as from an immense filter. From the upper or ferruginous sand it must descend, and be carried off with a considerable amount of water, and the oxide of iron may be seen in the abundant ochreous sediment which it almost always deposits as it issues from the surface or upper part of the marl. It is ready, therefore, to precipitate this oxide of iron upon any substance capable of displacing it from the water, and meeting with the more soluble carbonate of lime of the shells, an interchange of materials arises, and the calcareous matter of the shells is dissolved and carried away, while the oxide of iron takes its place. Hence we often see the shells of a dark yellow or brown color, and, upon inspection, they are found to consist less of carbonate of lime than oxide of iron. In such cases they are to be regarded wholly inert upon the soil, as in fact so much useless matter, occupying the place of a far more serviceable substance, the greensand or marl. But this is not the only change which seems to have been effected in the foreign materials of the marl by this unceasing infiltration of water. I have before alluded to the peculiar composition of the overlying dark blue astrigent clay, and to the fact that it frequently contains a sensible quantity of the sulphate of iron or copperas, and that both this clay and its astrigent impregnations are very often mingled through the granular marl itself. Now the water from either must dissolve its passage a considerable quantity of the copperas, (an easily soluble substance,) and when there are shells or calcareous fossils, it must carry with it a portion of the carbonate of lime derived from them. These two substances coming together in a state of solution, a chemical reaction of course ensues; both the sulphate of iron and carbonate of lime are decomposed by the mutual affinities of their ingredients, and the result is a precipitation of the oxide of iron of the former, and a combination of the sulphuric acid and the lime to form sulphate of lime or gypsum. That such is the fact is apparent from our finding in many cases a sensible amount of gypsum, either in the earthy state or in minute crystals intermixed with the marl, and from our observing besides, that when gypsum is in greatest plenty, we can most generally discover a strong sulphurous odor, an evidence upon grounds being explained, of the existence of sulphuric acid, undergoing a conversion into the sulphate of iron. It will suggest itself to every one, that the existence even if in small quantities, of so potent a stimulant to vegetation as gypsum, must have a powerful influence in modifying the useful properties of the marl containing it; yet it must not be inferred from this, that

the efficacy of the greensand is owing to the gypsum, which I have shown to be frequently present. The comparative inertness of plaster upon the sandy soils of parts of the region where the marl has been applied, as in several places near Salem, is a fact in itself sufficient to overthrow this notion, even if it were not true that very many marls which do not contain gypsum in any shape, are endowed with the highest fertilizing powers."

The same writer further observes: "From the description of this stratum already presented, it appears that the action of this astrigent mass upon the crop is decidedly pernicious, when the material is employed in any amount beyond the most stinted doses; and the cause of its poisonous property would seem, judging from the chemical analyses made, and from other evidences possessed, namely, the copperas and sulphate of alumina. Copperas, though a neutral salt, is well known to chemists to exert an acid reaction, and hence we are not to be amazed that a clay containing it in obvious quantities should burn, or more strictly speaking, poison the vegetation. Knowing as we do the deleterious properties of the clay, a few simple correctives suggest themselves, and such as any one wishing to use this substance as a substitute for marl may adopt."

The correctives here alluded to, are, in the first place, to cast it into flat shallow heaps after digging, that the rains may carry away the copperas, it being soluble in water; and in the second place that mixture of caustic lime in proportion of one bushel of lime to every hundred bushels of the substance, and that in this admixture the sulphur of iron is converted into an oxide, and precipitated by the liberation of the sulphuric acid, which chemically unites with the lime and forms gypsum; in the third place to form a compost with the various matters of the farm and barn yard.

J. N. KEELER.

Mulberry Farm, N. J.

Management of Bees—No. 6.

(Continued from page 151.)

But another method of renewing the combs of a hive of bees by the use of the subtended bee hive, may be recommended with considerable confidence, as experiment has already shown. This hive, according to Reaumur, was invented by Jacques D. E. Gellieu, a gentleman of Newchâtel; but according to Nutt, a late English writer, it was previously invented and patented to John Gedde, about the year 1678. This hive, no doubt, has been variously modified. I have used it, and seen it in use, in a great variety of forms, and yet it is a poor hive, and must always remain so, until the principles of ventilating hives are better understood. Nutt uses 14 pages of his book, octavo, in urging reasons argumentative against its use. M. D. E. Gellieu, a modern French writer, will not use it, even in honor of his father who invented it, and wrote two volumes in its praise, and on the management of bees. But, after all that has been said and written against this hive, it is believed that it is now so constructed as to render it one of the best, if not the very best hive in the world. It is indeed true, that it costs too much; but when it is considered that a hive that is well made and well housed will last an age, the objection will not weigh much with those who are able to make, or purchase them. Some late improvements made on this hive I think will remove all objections that have been urged against it except the expense, which many who keep bees, feel unable to incur. As this hive is made in three sections, 15 inches square and seven and a half inches high each, including the top board, the distance of travel for the bees to get into the upper sections from the entrance is much shorter than in any of the old plans that I have seen. As there are twelve two inch holes and eight one inch ones, through the top-board, near the sides, all around each section, the bees are not materially impeded in passing by each other and finding their way from one section to another; and as these apertures are so abundant, ventilation is most easily graduated, while at the same time, a perfect uniformity of heat diffuses itself through the whole of the hive. There should be a vent on each side of each section covered with a fine wire screen to keep the bees from entering it which, will be otherwise described in the bottom board, and a window with a door or slide to cover it may be made on the other, to observe the state of the bees. These three sections are made by a workman, perfectly exact and square, and set on the canal bottom board. This bottom board is made of plank at least two inches thick, and six inches wide, and two feet long. From the inside of the hive's bottom, which should be near one end, the plank is worked out in a quadruple inclined plane down to some less than an inch, like the hopper to a grist mill; in the center a hole is bored with a three inch center bit, and a tin tube made to fit the hole two inches long, which is inserted therein from below, with six half inch holes at equal distances near its lower edge. This tube is confined in the center of the bottom board by nails directly under the cap or the canal, and projects an inch or more below the under side of the bottom board, and is lined on its inside with wire gauze to prevent the entrance of any insect from without. A cap is made like the cover to a butter box to fit on the outside, with half inch holes in its rim corresponding with those in the projecting tube, so that when it is put on, it is made adjustable, and ventilation most easily graduated by turning the cap a little. A canal or gutter is made in the top of the front part of the bottom board, six inches wide, one inch deep, and covered with a board fitted in so as to form a tunnel one-fourth of an inch high, planned off level on top. As the bees alight in the canal and enter the tunnel, they are about half way to the center of the bottom of the hive before they are in it. This entrance may be contracted if found too wide, by fitting in a billet of wood, and have room only for passing bees in proportion to their number at work. It is a sovereign remedy against robbers, from bees of other hives. The advantages of this bottom board with the principles of ventilation here adopted by the adjustable caps, must be determined principally by future experiment. I constructed this bottom board in 1832, but used a sheet iron slide in the center for a ventilator. This did not prevent the entrance of the moths, and it was laid aside. In 1834 or 5, I constructed a wire screen bottom board, but this let in too much cold air, so as to chill the young broods, and that was laid aside except for temporary purposes; since which I have used the suspended bottom board with very good success. Last spring, however, I determined, and succeeded in obtaining, a patent on this principle of ventilation, and went into a course of experiments with several of these bottom boards, all made on the same principle, but varying in the power of ventilation and width of the canal, some without the adjustable caps, and others with; all of which were new hives, new swarms, and new bottom boards, and all stand in a row together in the apiary. And here it is proper to remark that every hive that is placed on the canal bottom is infested with moths, more or less, except those which are ventilated by the adjustable caps; these are not annoyed in the least; and, with my present views, I feel confident that with scrupulous good management, no moth will ever enter and deposit her eggs in the interior of the hive, where this bottom board and adjustable cap is used with skill, and the apiary is not treated with neglect. In the use of these ventilators the effluvia escapes through the wire gauze, and attracts the miller to those places where she surely cannot enter. Moreover, the tunnel to the canal extends so far into the hive that the entrance is kept warm at that place, and the bees will keep a strong guard there to prevent intruders, as well the robbers of bees from other hives, as moths, until the weather is too cold for the millers to fly; and further, if in chilly nights the miller does enter the tunnel, the general atmosphere cannot dissipate

her effluvia at that place, and she is driven out by a strong wind.

If the subtended hive is used, and my system adopted, the third or top section is used only as a chamber for boxes, &c. The third year, early in the spring, this section, which has been used as a chamber two seasons is placed underneath, next to the bottom board; this raises the hive of bees by this shift, so that the section which was in the middle is now on the top. Now draw a fine wire through so as to divide off the top section; empty it of its contents, and use it as a chamber. This prevents the necessity of pruning the combs in the ordinary way; for the bees fill down the section next the bottom board with new combs, and enables them to replenish their stock by raising their young, in cells not more than two years old. The caustic nature of lime is so unfriendly to life in most insects, a coat of lime paste should be laid on so as to fill up any space between sections as well as bottom boards, and all cracks and open places; and no moth's eggs will ever hatch there.

Respectfully,

JOHN M. WEEKS.

Comments on the Sept. No. of the Cultivator.

Messrs. GAYLORD & TUCKER.—The first article that attracted my attention was Lord Western's letter about his Merino sheep, in which he states, that by suffering two wethers to remain three years without being shorn, the fleece of one did actually weigh 25 pounds, and of the other, would weigh 30 lbs., as his Lordship guessed. Now, to say not a word of the marvellous in this statement, I beg leave to ask, what was the loss and gain of this experiment? The gain, "I guess," would be, only the wonderment elicited among all the quidnuncs and marvel-lovers of his agricultural brethren, while the certain loss, if the sheep lived, would be the whole interest of the money for which the fleeces would sell, if sheared annually as usual; besides incurring the not improbable risk of losing both principal and interest, should the sheep die, which surely ought to be estimated at something, if they were kept for such a period without their yielding any thing in the form of profit, but manure. Although it is not probable that any of our farmers will be tempted to follow this English Lord's example with their sheep, for they have but little fancy for such suspended and precarious profits; still I have deemed his experiment deserving of this brief notice. To make it worthy of imitation, he should have proved, that the 25 lbs. of wool exceeded the aggregate amount of three such fleeces as the slaughtered wether would have produced annually; and moreover, that this excess would more than compensate, not only the certain loss of interest, but the possible loss of principal by the death of the sheep.

The next article is headed "Fattening Animals," and for this there are four rules given. In regard to the two first of these, there are, I think, some points yet undetermined, and some differences of opinion, among the most experienced feeders. For instance, although it is not probable that any of our farmers should be so prepared that its nutritive properties may be all made available to the use of the animal, and not only so, but appropriated with the least possible expenditure of muscular energy, yet, when we come to inquire, what is this preparation? we get different answers from different persons, and all of them with equal claims to our regard on the score of experience. Some contend, as I do, that the author of the rule does, that the best preparation is to cook their food. Others maintain, that this violates the first rule, which requires, that "all the nutritive properties of the food should be made available to the use of the animal;" whereas, cooking destroys at least some portion of them, besides being unnatural. Again, the author of these rules seems to assert, that all their food, if fed raw, should be previously cut up. On this point, any one who has tried the risk of choking, where the animal, say, a pig, is so considerable as to exceed the advantage, especially when the extra labor of slicing is taken into the estimate. With respect to sheep, we know that in England, where sheep husbandry is probably better understood than in any other country in the world, it is the general practice to hurdle them on their turnip fields, that they may feed themselves, and thereby save, not only the expense of digesting, but also the expense of cutting and stalling. It is true, that in fattening their sheep for market, more food is given to them in addition to roots; but whether the slicing of the latter be any advantage, is a matter which may be pronounced at least doubtful.

The first rule concludes with the following declaration:—"All food should be given to a fattening animal in such a state, that a little time and labor as possible on the part of the animal, may be required in eating." Now, if the most important point in fattening an animal, be to do it in the shortest possible time, then this assertion may be correct. But if the preservation of its health, and the good flavor of its flesh, after they are killed for use, be still more important, then the correctness of the rule may well be denied. For all medical writers on the subject of diet, concur in the opinion, that the more slowly and thoroughly human beings masticate their food, the better they will digest it, and the more perfectly it will answer all the purposes for which it is taken. And why this should not be the case with brutes also, it will not be easy to prove, especially with all that ruminate. That it is the case, not only with them, but also with hogs, all I think, will agree, who have ever tried the difference between beef and mutton fattened with grass and grain, while running at large, and that which is called stalled; and the difference between the flesh of hogs fattened in sties, and those which are made fat without being confined in pens, until two or three weeks before they are killed. If profit alone be our object in fattening animals, then, indeed, some time and expense may be saved by adopting the first rule with some qualification.

The second rule requires, that "from the time the fattening process commences, until the animal is slaughtered, he should never be without food." If I remember right, this requisition is opposed to the opinions expressed in different volumes of your own paper, by several of your correspondents, who write like experienced men. It is true, they agree that fattening animals should be fed regularly, and as often as they manifest an inclination for food. But they object to its constantly lying by them, which it must do, if they are "never to be without food," because they are apt, when this is the case, to gorge themselves, and thereby retard, instead of hastening, the fattening process.

Under the head of "Work for the Month," you recommend September, from the 12th to the 20th, as the best time for sowing wheat. This, I presume, has been found to suit your latitude. But as far south as about 38°, I have never known nor heard of a single crop, for many years past, that was not greatly injured by the Hessian fly, if sown earlier than some time in October.

To your excellent article entitled "Agricultural Capital," permit me to add two other items to your enumeration. Although in applying to them the term "capital," it may be thought that I give it a more comprehensive meaning, than is usually attached to it; I will venture to take this liberty. These items are, good character and good education, in which last I include, not only genuine agricultural science, to guide and govern agricultural practice, but all other knowledge which will contribute to make us better and wiser men, better and more useful citizens, better qualified, in every way, to promote not only our own, but other's welfare and happiness. Such might be the yeomanry of our yet happy country, for their profession unquestionably gives them vast advantages over all others towards making such attainments; and all they have to

do in order to realize them, is, to cultivate their minds with the same care and assiduity which the best and most intelligent of them cultivate their fields.

Your article on Bots suggests to me what I have often heard said by persons of great experience in raising horses. It is, that during the season when the bot fly prevails, you should daily examine your horses and colts, and never suffer any of the numerous aits which they deposit on them, to remain a minute after you discover them. Do this for your horses' limbs and bodies, and you will never need any remedy for killing bots in their stomachs.

In regard to Mr. John William's marvellous wheat, I would, most respectfully, recommend, that instead of "California," he should hereafter substitute the term, "Brodingnag;" that strange country once visited by that famous traveler, Captain Lemuel Gulliver, who found every thing therein on the gigantic scale, from the people "as tall as an ordinary spire-steeple," down even to insects, the common house-flies being "as big as a Dunstable Lark," and wasps "as large as partridges."

Mr. Williams, I see, states that some of the heads of his Brodingnag wheat, (as I beg leave to call it,) which he raised the present year, produced two hundred and four grains each. The largest head I ever measured was rather more than five inches—but I will say five. It was of the kind called blue stem, and contained, as well as I can recollect, only seventy grains, which is nearly double the average quantity of our ordinary wheat, in the southern states. Therefore, Mr. W.'s Brodingnag head, if it grows at all like other wheat, must have been either within a very small fraction of fifteen inches long, or must have been nearly three times larger in circumference than the head I counted, to hold the number of chambers necessary to contain these 204 grains. Mr. W. further says, "It may be considered a reasonable estimate, that in a good soil, each kernel sown, will produce 1,000 grains." Well, therefore, may the proprietors of this most stupendous wheat ask, for single heads, the very moderate price of one dollar each, since the grains of only one head sown, as Mr. W. suggests, would produce in twelve months, 204,000 grains, which would yield at the asking price, (and he may safely calculate upon finding gulls enough among our brethren to give it,) the very comfortable, snug, little return of one thousand dollars for one! Hence it is demonstrable, that to sow California or Brodingnag wheat, at a dollar per head, of 204 grains each, should yield to the grower as much as for Mr. Williams, would throw into the back ground, at a slight loss, even the wildest of the numerous speculations which have ever yet humbugged our money-loving, most gullible country.

Mr. Solomon W. Jewett's communication on "The Management of Meadow and Pasture lands," deserves the attentive perusal of all our brethren—both for his facts and opinions. Among the latter, however, there is one in regard to which there are many who differ from him. He says, "Horses will, in a few years, destroy a good pasture, by cutting up the sward; they return no manure to the soil that is of any benefit to the herbage." The first clause of the sentence is generally believed to be true; but it depends on the particular breed of horses raised, whether this "cutting up" be not amply repaid. Again, cattle cut up pasture more than horses, for their hoofs are divided into two parts, each having a sharp point, which necessarily cuts more than the round, solid hoof of the horse, as may easily be seen by examining the pastures in which both kinds of stock run together. Moreover, if the horse manure dropt in their pastures be "of no benefit to the herbage," the manure of cattle must be still more worthless, since it has often been proved by accurate analysis to be weaker.

Mr. J. C. Mather's article on "Lime," furnishes a fit occasion to suggest what all our brethren, I believe, deem a great desideratum among us. That is, for some one to make a series of experiments to ascertain the best and the greatest quantity of this substance which can be beneficially applied to land. This is still a matter altogether undetermined, although lime has been used to improve land for many centuries past. Dr. Wm. Bartram, who is highly distinguished both as an agriculturist and botanist, says, in a letter to the late Judge Buel, that in Pennsylvania the quantity generally applied varies from 20 to 100 bushels, according to the quality of the land, the richest requiring the most lime. Judge Buel himself, in his "Farmer's Companion," states the maximum and minimum at 120 and 50. On the other hand, the English writers, of whom I shall quote only James Anderson, the distinguished author of "Essays relating to Agriculture and Rural Affairs," and of several other performances, recommends far greater quantities. The extract which I am about to give, is from his essay "on quick lime as a cement and as a manure," than which I have never read a more learned, comprehensive, and at the same time practical treatise on the subject. It is published at the end of "Marshall's Gardening." In speaking of lime as a manure, he says: "It is common to hear those, who have had little experience of it as a manure, recommend very great caution, lest too great a quantity be employed, for fear of burning the soil, as they express it. This idea of burning has been evidently adopted, from what has been experienced by applying caustic lime to animals or vegetables, in large quantities, as it often corrodes and shrivels them up, and produces other effects which greatly resemble those of fire. But it cannot produce any such effects, unless there are vegetables growing upon the soil at the time. In that case, the vegetables might, indeed, be corroded by the lime, if rain should fall immediately after it was spread, when newly slaked; but as it loses this fiery corrosive power in a few days after it is spread, nothing of that kind can be expected to happen to the soil. Accordingly, we never hear of crops being burnt up by too great a quantity of lime, in those countries where it has long been used as a common manure, although it is there often employed in much larger quantities than in any other places where it is more rare."

I myself have had the experience of lime in all proportions from one hundred to above seven hundred bushels to the acre, upon a great variety of soils; and have always found that its effect in promoting the fertility of the soil, has been in proportion to the quantity employed, other circumstances being alike.

The expense in most cases prevents farmers from employing this manure in greater quantities than those above mentioned; but accidental circumstances clearly show, that if it were applied in much larger quantities, the effect would only be to promote the luxuriance of the crop in a higher degree.

A gentleman of my acquaintance, in whose veracity I perfectly confide, happening to be from home when a large field was limed; and having no occasion for the whole quantity of lime that had been brought for that purpose and laid down in one corner of the field, his servants, without driving it away, mixed what remained with the soil, although the lime lay there about four inches thick over the whole surface. The effect was, that for many years afterwards, the grain in that place, was so immoderately luxuriant, that it fell over and rotted before it came to the ear. After many years this luxuriance abated a little, so as to allow the grain to ripen; but it was there always much more luxuriant than in any other part of the field.

An accidental experiment, nearly similar to this, fell under my own observation. It happened that the servants of another farmer laid, by mistake, a few heaps of lime upon a grass field that he did not intend should be broken up at the time. The mistake was soon discovered, and no more lime was laid down at that place, and the few heaps, (about a bushel in each,) were allowed to lie neglected, without being spread. The field

was pastured upon for seven or eight years after that, before it was converted into tillage; and the heaps were by that time become so flat, and so far sunk into the ground, that they could hardly be discovered.

Before it was plowed up, the whole of the field was limed, and this part equally with the rest; nor were the old heaps touched till the plow went through them in tilling the field, when the lime was then turned up, with only a very small mixture of soil. The consequence was, that at every one of these heaps, a tuft of corn sprung up with such luxuriance as to be entirely rotted before harvest; and for many years afterwards these tufts could be distinguished from the other parts of the field, at a very great distance, like so many buttons on a coat.

The above facts appear to me perfectly conclusive as to the effects of lime in England, and why it should not act nearly or quite in the same way in the United States, will not, I think, be easy to prove.

In L. F. A.'s brief article, headed "Imported Berkshire," there is a single sentence which would make an excellent theme for a whole volume; it is truly "multum in parvo," and I therefore beg leave to repeat it, in the hope that he or some other of your numerous correspondents will give us, at least an essay, on a subject so deeply interesting to us all. In speaking of the far greater attention paid by English agriculturists, than by those of the United States, to every thing connected with their profession, he justly remarks, that "when mind is thus applied to the development of matter in agriculture—as unhappily for our true interest it is not—then shall we witness equal success and improvement; and then will the land-holder take his true position in wealth and influence with the other professions of our country." But alas! although this all-important truth is perfectly obvious to the dullest understanding, and has been again and again, presented to us in almost every variety of aspect that language could give it, most of us appear as utterly insensible of it, as if we had neither intellects to comprehend, nor souls to feel how deeply it concerns our whole brotherhood always to regard husbandry both as a science and an art, if we would ever attain that rank and estimation in society to which we have a perfectly just claim; one too, which all would admit, if we would only seek it as we ought to do. COMMENTATOR.

Cutting up Corn.

Messrs. GAYLORD & TUCKER.—It has been the practice of most farmers for a few years past, to cut up their corn at the bottom, and stack it in the field. But I find there is a difference in the mode of doing it; now I will give you and your readers the manner in which we do it. Two of us take five rows, and commence cutting; when we get an armful, we set it up on the middle row, around a hill which is left standing, to make the stack, never laying it down at all; when the stack is made of sufficient size, we take a band of straw, turn the tops down, and bind around it, and it is done. We are convinced that we can cut up a field of corn in this way in less time than we can in topping, binding and stacking it in the old way. Where we cut it up, lay it down in bundles, and then have to go and bind them, and draw them together to stack, we have found it to be an ugly and tedious job; besides it takes about double the time and labor to do it. As to the economy of cutting up corn, I think there are few farmers that will question that point; the abundance of cattle fodder which is saved, is enough to induce any farmer to do it; besides this, we have the ground clear for the spring crop. I know there are some farmers who object to this manner of curing corn, on the ground that corn gets ripe better when topped than when cut up at the bottom. Now as to that I think that the majority of farmers will bear me out in saying that corn cut up at the bottom will ripen better, be sounder and heavier corn than in any other way in which it can be cured. Talking a short time since, with a practical corn grower, the owner of a large tract of land, (Leman Stone, Esq.) he said, "that corn may be cut up a great deal earlier in the season than most people think," for he says "as quick as the kernel begins to grow hard in the center, it will do to cut up, and then the stalk which is green will retain the juice, which is carried to the ear, and both the ear and the stalk are preserved in a much better condition than when the stalk is left dry up before it is cut up. If you or any of your correspondents have a better way of cutting up corn than this, I wish you would give it to us through the columns of the Cultivator. Yours with respect,

Derby, Conn. Sept. 28, 1841.

LEVI DURAND.

The South Downs.

Messrs. EDITORS.—I have frequently seen noticed in the Cultivator, importations of different breeds of the English sheep, among which the South Downs appear to be finding some favor with your New-York farmers and breeders. The amount invested in sheep in the Green Mountain State, at the present time, is perhaps double, if not treble, to that of neat cattle; consequently wool and mutton are among the first great commodities of our state. The breed of sheep in the west part of the state, so far as I am acquainted, is principally a cross between the Spanish Merino and native sheep, approaching, in many places, very near to full blood Merino. The Saxony sheep have also been introduced and crossed to some extent with our grade Merinos, but without that success, I think, which is necessary to warrant further experiment. They are decidedly too tender a sheep for our latitude, and present encouragement for growing fine wool. Our high blooded Merino wethers possess too small a carcass for profitable feeding, and the quality of the mutton is considered by some to be inferior to that of the native sheep.

I have had some thoughts of late of attempting to introduce some South Downs into this vicinity, if I could become convinced that a cross with our present breed would add to the interest of growing wool and mutton in Vermont. Notwithstanding our distance of 150 miles from Brighton, the business of feeding and driving fat sheep to that market forms no inconsiderable item in sheep husbandry.

It would be very interesting to me, and I think to a large portion of your Vermont readers, would you, or some of your readers who are well acquainted with the different breeds of sheep, and the relative value of wool and mutton, answer some or all of the following queries?

What is the value of South Down wool, compared with American Merino?

Is the wool of sufficient fineness to manufacture into such cloths as take a lead in demand in the American markets?

What amount of wool per head would a flock of 100 yield, if kept together on common ordinary keep?

How does the yearling's fleece compare in weight with two, three, and four year old sheep?

Do they incline to fatten easily?

At what age can the wethers be most profitably fitted for the stall, in places as distant from market as Vermont?

How does the mutton compare in quality with other varieties of sheep, and what its weight?

How will the pelts compare in value with the Merinos slaughtered in November or December?

Are they more or less subject to scab or foot-rot than other sheep?

What is the present value of South Down bucks and ewes, in the vicinity of Albany?

Chimney Point, Vt., September 25, 1841.

J. N. SMITH.

[We shall be gratified to receive answers to all or any of the above inquiries, and we doubt not some of our readers will be able to furnish satisfactory replies.—Eos.]

The New-York Market.

MONTHLY REPORT FOR OCTOBER.

(Prepared for THE CULTIVATOR.)

ASHES.—During the early part of the month there was a very active business in Pots. The demand for export exceeded the receipts, and gradually advancing rates were demanded and obtained. The arrivals from the interior were not heavy; and the market improved to \$6.75, when some considerable parcels were received from Canada, which supplied the orders on the market; and since, the demand has materially decreased. The receipts are now to a fair extent with a rather limited inquiry, at \$6.25 @ \$6.37 1-2, mostly at the higher rate. Pearls have remained dull during the month at \$6.00; the sales being principally for home use. The rate is now \$6.75, with limited sales. The advices by the Columbia have had no effect upon the market; and there is at present but little prospect of any improvement.

COTTON.—In this important staple, there was during the first two weeks of the month, a depressed feeling; and holders being rather anxious to sell, a slight decline was submitted to. The sales were not extensive, but the stock in the market was materially decreased by shipment from first hands. The stock is now very light, which, with the reception of advices from England, is rather more favorable than we have of late received, and has given much firmness to the market; and prices may be quoted at 1-2 to 3c. $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. higher than the lowest point of the season. This improvement is principally to be ascribed to the small stock here on sale. Of new cotton, about 2,800 bales have been received, most of which has been sold. The quality of the new crop so far as received, is not very good. The demand was good for some time previous to the arrival of the Columbia, but the firmness of holders has since checked sales. The following are the quotations compared with the list of the month.

	1st Oct.	24th Oct.
Upland and Florida,....	7 1-2 @ 10c.	8 @ 10 1-2c.
Mobile,.....	8 @ 10 1-2c.	9 1-2 @ 11 1-2c.
New-Orleans,.....	7 1-2 @ 11c.	8 @ 11 1-4c.

FEATHERS.—Western live geese are selling at 35c. per lb. cash, with a fair demand.

FLOUR AND MEAL.—The anticipations which were entertained of a short harvest in England, and thereby opening an extensive vent for our bread stuffs, having been dissipated by later advices of a nearly average crop, say about six sevenths, the market for flour fell off rapidly until it touched as low or a lower point than before the speculative feeling commenced. During the decline, buyers, especially for shipment and eastern ports, came into the market very sparingly, looking for still lower prices; and in consequence, the stock accumulated by fresh arrivals from the interior, until it became very large, almost unprecedentedly so for the season. The large receivers continued comparatively firm, but some were found to sell; and a few sales of fair Genesee were reported as low as \$3.37 1-2 @ \$3.50. The millers having stopped grinding for a week, and having made an arrangement to make another stop from the 15th to the 27th, the receipts have become light, and the market having regained a healthy appearance, buyers have come in freely both for home consumption and shipment. The sales now exceed considerably the daily receipts, and the stock in store is becoming reduced, but is however, yet large. The rates for Genesee and Ohio have gradually improved to \$6.00 @ \$6.12 1-2, and the market evinces no appearance of freeing at present. The receipts of Ohio are proportionally less than Genesee, and the rates are about the same. The market is nearly bare of Michigan and Troy, both of which bring \$5.94 @ \$6.00. Southern flour being in fewer hands, has not fluctuated to the same extent. The demand has been inactive, but within a few days has materially improved. The supplies of Howard street have been very light. Holders have been very firm at \$6.50 for Georgetown and Howard street, and are to-day demanding \$6.25 @ \$6.37 1-2, and \$6.50 for the first city-wine. Jersey Corn Meal is selling at \$3.25, Brandywine, \$3.37 1-2 in bbls., and \$3.50 in hds. Rye flour \$3.50.

GRAIN.—Nearly every description of grain has declined during the month. Wheat has arrived in considerable quantities, and has fallen off from \$1.45 to \$1.18c. The market is now bare with considerable inquiry. The last parcel sold was Virginia, which was taken on arrival, at 12c. for milling. A good lot of Genesee would probably bring an advance on this rate. The receipts of southern corn were very large in the early part of the month, and the sale declined to 63c. $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel, running measure. The low price of whiskey checked purchases on the part of distillers, and the demand from the east was very small; consequently the stock accumulated. This has worked off, and the market is now bare of southern. The last sales were at 65 @ 66c. measure. Jersey is selling at 68 @ 70c. Northern, 70 @ 71c. Ohio 63 @ 66c. all measure. The demand is now animated, and the market has an improving appearance, with but a light supply. North River rye has been for some time past steady at 63c. at the boat, 66 @ 68c. delivered. The receipts have not been large, and at those rates which are a considerable decline from our last month's report, sales are easily effected. New barley has appeared pretty freely. The first parcel sold early in the month at 63 1-2 @ 64 1-2. The article, however, has remained very heavy, and sales have since been made to some extent at 62 @ 63c. To-day, two parcels sold at 63 @ 66c. The market has been poorly supplied with southern oats, but the arrival of northern have been equal to the demand, and the price has fluctuated between 49 @ 51c. The stock is now quite fair, with a good demand at 49 @ 49 1-2c. Black eyed peas are plenty, and the demand is limited. The last sale was made at \$1.20 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel.

PROVISIONS.—The market for Beef and Pork has become very heavy, but has probably reached its lowest point of depression. Our immense stock of Pork has been somewhat reduced, but is still large, probably 45,000 bbls., and the rates are extremely low. The demand for export is limited. The exports from the 1st to the 20th were only 3,150 bbls. The sales of Ohio Pork are at \$7 @ \$7.25 for Mess, and \$9.25 @ \$9.50 for Prime. Dutchess county \$8.62 1-2 @ \$10.00, and State \$8 @ \$8.12 1-2 @ \$9.50. At these rates, the market is quite dull. The receipts of new Beef are yet but limited, and holders are firm at \$7.75 @ \$8.00 for Mess, and \$4.75 @ \$5.00 for Prime. For old Beef, the rates are \$1 @ \$7. As in pork, the amount of transactions is limited to the actual wants of the trade. The exports to the 20th were only 799 bbls. Lard is in fair demand at 7 @ 8c. Dressed hogs are selling freely at 5c. Pickled hams 5c. for old, and 7c. for new. Smoked hams 5 @ 8c. There is a brisk demand for butter, and good parcels find a ready market at 19 @ 22c. Shipping quantities command 10 @ 12c., good common, 14 @ 16c. The supplies are not very large, and the market indicates a disposition to improve, and unless large quantities arrive, the rate will not advance materially. Cheese is also not very plenty, and is in good request at 6 @ 6 1-2c. in casks, and 7 @ 8c. in boxes.

RICE.—The stock has become almost unprecedentedly light, and holders are demanding and obtaining higher prices. Small lots of the old stock are selling at \$4.00, and of the new, at \$4.25 @ \$4.37 1-2c. The transactions are confined to the immediate wants of the trade.

TOBACCO.—There is very little activity in the market at private sale, and prices during the month, have declined nearly 1c. $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. The feeling is still heavy, and the stock accumulat-

ing. The quotations are Richmond and Petersburg 4 @ 8c. North Carolina, 4 @ 6c.; Kentucky, 5 @ 10c. Manufactured, No. 1, 12 @ 15c.; No. 2, 10 @ 11c.; No. 3, 8 @ 10c. 32 jumps, 16 @ 20c.; Ladies Twist, 16 @ 20c.; Cavendish, 10 @ 40c. There appears to be no reason to anticipate any improvement at present, either in demand or prices. The inspection of Virginia to 30th Sept. amounts to 51,994 hds., against 58,034 hds. last year. The stock is 9,719 hds. against 13,829 hds. last year. The quotations given above are entirely nominal.

WOOL.—There has been for the last month a fair amount of transactions in this staple, and the demand continues to be quite good. Prices have become settled, and will probably undergo no material change. Since our last report, prices in the country have declined slightly. We quote this month, American Saxony, 45 @ 48c.; Full-blood Merino, 40 @ 45c.; half blood to full, 33 @ 38c.; common to half-blood, 25 @ 30c.; superfine pulled, 36 @ 40c.; No. 1, 34 @ 36c.; No. 2, 25 @ 28c.

TALLOW.—The demand is good, and all the receipts are taken. The stock held by the butchers is very large, and they are only selling in small lots. We quote City rendered, 9c.; grass fed, 9 @ 9 1-2c.; sheep, 8 @ 8 3-4c. The supplies are not very heavy.

CATTLE.—The supplies of Bees have been rather large during the month, and the market has been heavy. On the 15th the market day there were 3,300 offered, and 1,450 sold. On the last market day 1,800 were offered, including 500, left over from the previous market. There was a good attendance of buyers, and the drovers having submitted to a reduction, 1,500 were sold at \$4 @ \$5.50, averaging \$5.50 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 lbs. Of Cows and Calves, 50 were at market; 35 were sold \$25 @ \$40 each; which has been about the rates of the month. 2,500 sheep and lambs were offered and all sold at \$1.50 @ \$4, for sheep, and \$1.25 @ \$2.50 for lambs. The rate for Hay has ruled 57 1-2 @ 11c. by the load, during the month. The supply is but moderate.

Premiums on Butter, Cheese and Field Crops.

It will be seen, by reference to the proceedings of the Executive Committee of the N. Y. S. Ag. Society, in another part of this paper, that the list of premiums heretofore offered for butter, cheese, and field crops, and which are to be awarded at the annual meeting of the Society, to be held in this city on the 18th and 19th days of January next, have been considerably increased. We particularly invite the attention of our dairymen to the subject; and as the premiums are open to all, we may hope that the liberal scale on which they are got up, may induce an active and honorable competition. Those who bring their butter and cheese will doubtless have an opportunity of disposing of it to the best advantage, even should they not happen to receive a premium.

2d Exhibition of the Maryland S. Ag. Society.

This meeting took place at Ellicott's Mills, on the 15th and 16th of Sept. We learn from the American Farmer, that although the exhibition was very respectable, yet owing to the unfavorable location of the place of meeting, it fell short of the expectations of many. The exhibition of swine was most imposing, and the Marylanders are in a fair way to possess some of the finest stocks of hogs in the United States. Old Kentucky will find it necessary to look well to its laurels. A fine lot of South Downs were exhibited by Dr. Thomas, but these were the only lot on the ground. Some beautiful Short Horns and Devons were exhibited, but judging from the report, Otsego, Onondaga, Cayuga, or Ontario in our own State, would excel the State Society of Maryland in this respect. The display of agricultural implements was of the most interesting kind, and has rarely been exceeded in this country. Some of these, which were comparatively new inventions, were much admired, and sales were made, and orders to a considerable extent were given on the ground. The address was by the President of the Society, Gen. EMOY, and we should be happy to lay the whole of it before our readers could we find space for it; but his remarks on the improvement made in domestic animals within the last sixty years, or since the time of Bakewell, are so just and worthy the consideration of all, that we extract a few sentences from this part:

"It is very strange, but it is nevertheless a fact, that there are some practical farmers, who, (losing sight of earlier maturity, greater aptitude to fat, and superiority in the quality of the meat,) deny that the improved breeds of English animals are any better for our purposes than the old stock found upon our estates some 30 or 40 years ago. I feel able to speak from some experience on this subject, and to say that the ox or the sheep averages now on my farm at least twice the weight they did 40 years ago; and the meat being of much better quality, they will sell for nearly three times the prices they sold for at that time. But in proof of the gross error of such opinion, I will offer you far better testimony than that of my own experience.

"By the estimate of Dr. Davenant, made in the year 1710, the average weight of black cattle, (so called because most of them were then black,) was only 370 lbs.; that the calf, 60 lbs.; and those of sheep and lambs taken promiscuously, 28 lbs.

"Mr. McCulloch in his Dictionary of Commerce, a book having the accuracy of a law book, makes an estimate 120 years afterwards in the same (Smithfield) market, and puts the weight of cattle at 550 lbs., sheep at 50 lbs., and calves at 108 lbs.

"Mr. Youatt, who has still more recently prepared a most valuable book on cattle, estimates the present average to be 636 lbs. for cattle, 93 lbs. for sheep and lambs, and 144 lbs. for calves; being about double the weight of those animals as estimated by Davenant 120 years before."

In this country the increase has not been as rapid as in England, but with the infusion of improved blood in our herds, and a better system of breeding in operation, the effects are already extensively felt here, as the increased averages of the Boston, New-York, and Philadelphia markets demonstrate, an increase within 20 years, estimated at from 12 to 20 per cent. Never was there a more heterodox opinion advanced, than that we should in effect go back to the point from which Bakewell started some sixty years since in improving our stock, which would be the case should we, for our old domestic breeds, reject the English improved ones

Notices to Correspondents, &c.

COMMUNICATIONS have come to hand, during the past month, from S. D. Martin, Solon Robinson, J. G. Kellogg, C. Butler, A. Young Farmer, L. Durand, J. N. Smith, A. Real Friend to Agriculture, A. V. D., E. G. Hulet, George Randall, W. H. Sotham (since withdrawn), E. Comstock, A. G. Carll, C. Hoffman, J. H. Merrick, L. A. M., W. P. Kinzer, J. Johnston, Wm. Partridge, B. P. Johnson, D. G. Weems, C. Olds, S. Moore, H. S. R., Commentator, A. B. Allen, Wm. Jennison, N. N. D., M. Davis, Jr., A. Breeder of Horses and a Subscriber to the Cultivator.

CORRECTIONS.—In the article headed "Farmers, cut your Fodder," in the last Cultivator, instead of "Gibson's," read Gibson's Patent, and the signature should have been Richmond Fisk, instead of Richard.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—I regret to have to ask you to be at the trouble to correct a slight error in my letter in the last Cultivator, in which, instead of reading "they will be sufficiently correct for 150 or 200 miles north of this latitude," it should have been, "north or south of this latitude." S. Moore.

Acknowledgments.

Since our last notice, we have received From Geo. RANDALL, Esq. New-Hedford, a lithographic print of his Ayrshire cow "Swinley."

From ROGUES, NOURSE & MASON, the extensive manufacturers of Plows and other Agricultural Implements at Worcester, Mass., one of their superior and highly finished plows, which has been forwarded to Otisco, to be tested by Mr. Gaylord on his farm.

From MOORE & SLATER, Ithaca, N. Y. one of their premium Side Hill Plows, an engraving of which is given in this paper.

From H. M. GAYLORD, Esq. Otisco, two barrels of Apples, among which are fine specimens of the Newtown, Striped and Jersey Pippins, Swarts, Russets, Seeknothers, Winter Sweets, Red Sweets, and the Parson's Apple. Mr. G. says—"The Parson's Apple I think you will pronounce a superior one. It will be a yellowish white when fit for eating, which will be from November to February. The original tree stands in the orchard of J. Parsons, Esq. The Winter Sweets are original with us. The fruit will be of a rich yellow hue when fit for use, which will be in December. For sauce (preserves) it is the best fruit we have."

From WILLIAM KENRICK, Esq. a copy of the 3d edition of his New American Orchardist, just issued from the press of Otis, Broaders & Co. Boston.

From JOHN HANNAM, Esq. North Deighton, England, the Leeds Intelligencer, containing the proceedings of the Wetherby Agricultural Society, at their late Show and Fair.

From ANOS DEAN, Esq. Albany, a copy of his Address before the Young Men's State Association.

From E. P. LANGDON, Esq. Cincinnati, the Annual Report of the Condition of the Common Schools of that city.

From DAYTON & SEXTON, booksellers, New-York, "The Young Choir, or School Singing Book, by Wm. B. Bradbury and C. W. Sanders."

From GOULD BLACKMAN, Stratford, Conn., (per H. C. Tomlinson,) an ear of White Flint Corn, measuring fourteen inches in length.

Advertisements.

So many and such urgent applications have been made to us to admit advertisements of stock, agricultural implements, fruit trees, &c. into the Cultivator, that we have (in part to avoid the necessity of giving what should be inserted as advertisements as communications) concluded to give all such advertisements one insertion; believing that while we shall thus oblige the dealers in such articles, we shall at the same time confer a favor on our readers, as it must be a matter of interest for them to know where they can procure improved seeds, implements, stock, &c. to the best advantage. Terms of advertising, \$2 per square of 12 lines.

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STEAM-PRESS OF C. VAN BENTHUYSEN.